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NOTICE TO READERS: On 6 May 1991, the DAILY REPORT will begin phasing in new radio and television sourcelines that reflect how a station identifies itself. This change eliminates the "Domestic Service" and "Television Service" designations in favor of the station identification as broadcast. The presence of a new sourceline reflects this change in policy, rather than the establishment of a new station or network.

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

IPU Conference Continues

Nuclear Proliferation Discussed at Session *[KCNA]* 1
Policies Against Violence Discussed at 3d Session *[KCNA]* 1
DPRK Official Gives ROK Delegate Message *[YONHAP]* 1
North-South Talks Desired 'As Soon As Possible' *[YONHAP]* 1
Kim Il-song Receives Parliamentarians 2
    Receives Syrian Delegation *[KCNA]* 2
    Receives Libyan Delegation *[KCNA]* 2
    Receives Pakistani Delegation *[KCNA]* 2

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Foreign Minister To Visit Iran, Egypt, Israel *[KYODO]* 3
Iraq Sounds Out Oil-Related Enterprises *[KYODO]* 3
Defense Agency Director Meets Cheney in U.S. *[KYODO]* 3
Finance Minister on G-7 Cooperation Framework *[KYODO]* 4
Hashimoto Welcomes U.S. Interest Rate Cut *[KYODO]* 5
    'Source' on Monetary Policy *[KYODO]* 5
Planning Chief Suggests Lowering Interest Rate *[KYODO]* 5
Keidanren Report on Food Material Price Gap *[KYODO]* 5
Seamless Pipe Exports to USSR Delayed *[Tokyo TV]* 6
SDPJ Tokyo Chapter Supports Governor *[Tokyo TV]* 6
Workers Attend 1 May Rallies, Urge Less Work *[KYODO]* 6
Three Satellite Channels To Be Maintained *[Tokyo TV]* 7

North Korea

North, South Agree on Dates for Soccer Tryout *[Pyongyang Radio]* 7
South Denounced for Banning May Day Celebration *[KCNA]* 8
SKNDF View of South Student's Death Reported *[KCNA]* 8
26 Apr ROK Military 'Mobile' Exercise Reported *[KCNA]* 9
U.S. 26 Apr Aerial, Ground Exercises Reported *[KCNA]* 9
Article Stresses Peace, Prosperity in Asia *[KCNA]* 9
* Comparing North, South Air Power *[AEROSPACE JAPAN Jan]* 10
South Group Protests Talk of War on Peninsula *[KCNA]* 13
Position Regarding Nuclear Inspection Maintained *[KCNA]* 13
Kim Il-song Receives Cuban Delegation 28 Apr *[KCNA]* 14
SPA Chairman Attends Cuban Delegation Talks *[KCNA]* 14
Kim Yong-nam Meets Tanzanian Delegation Arrival *[KCNA]* 14
    Holds Talks With Delegation *[KCNA]* 14

Prepartions for May Day Celebration Reported [KCNA] 14
    Papers Dedicate Editorials [KCNA] 15
    Joint Meeting With PRC Labor [KCNA] 15
Kim Pok-sin, Kang Hui-won Attend Report Meeting [Pyongyang Radio] 16
Anniversary of Kim Chong-il Publication Marked [KCNA] 16
Journalists Meet in Pyongyang for Training [KCNA] 16
    Training Course Concludes 30 Apr [KCNA] 16
People's Unity Around Party, Leader Stressed [Pyongyang Radio] 17
Daily Stresses Unity Between Army, People [Pyongyang Radio] 22
Successes in Sectors of National Economy Viewed [KCNA] 24

South Korea

Proposal for Joint Table Tennis Games Studied [YONHAP] 24
North's Soccer Team Scheduled To Arrive 6 May [YONHAP] 25
Envoys To Tour for UN Membership Support [YONHAP] 25
USSR Efforts on DPRK Nuclear Issue Viewed [KYODO] 25
Yi Sang-ok Continues Visit to United States 26
    Meets With Eagleburger [YONHAP] 26
    Meets With Cheney [YONHAP] 26
More Reaction to Death of Student Demonstrator 27
    National Assembly Debates Death [YONHAP] 27
    Opposition Urges No's Apology [THE KOREA TIMES 30 Apr] 28
    Students Continue Demonstrations [THE KOREA HERALD 1 May] 28
No Tae-u on Plan To Improve Science, Technology [THE KOREA HERALD 1 May] 29
Kim Tae-chung's Party in 'Political Dilemma' [THE KOREA TIMES 30 Apr] 29
* Suso Scandal Brings Cabinet, Party Changes [MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN 19 Feb] 30
* Hiring of Illegal Foreign Nationals Increases [HANGUK ILBO 7 Feb] 31

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Order Bans Civil Servants' Joining in Politics [Rangoon Radio] 33
Status of 'Parallel Government' Members Annulled [Rangoon Radio] 33
Saw Maung: SLORC To Work for Power Transfer [Rangoon Radio] 33
Minister Returns From Pacific Regional Meeting [Rangoon Radio] 34

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

'Strong Defence' Ties With Australia Continue [BERNAMA] 34
Japan's Steps To Strengthen Relations Lauded [NEW STRAITS TIMES 29 Apr] 35
Third World Nations Want To Join Group of 15 [BERNAMA] 36
Kelantan Passes Bill To Stop Party Defection [Kuala Lumpur Radio] 36
    Wisdom of Amendments Questioned [NEW STRAITS TIMES 27 Apr] 37

Singapore

Prime Minister Hosts Dinner for FPDA Ministers [Singapore Radio] 37

Cambodia

Temporary Cease-Fire Begins 1 May [AFP] 38
Rebels Say Phnom Penh Breaks Cease-Fire [AFP] 38
Ranariddh Tells Army To Remain on Guard [Radio VOK] 38
Political Bureau Issues Communique on Session [Phnom Penh Radio] 39
Politburo Member Sim Ka Addresses 1 May Rally [Phnom Penh Radio] 39

Deputy Planning Minister Dies in Ho Chi Minh City *[AFP]* 40
Hun Sen Thanks SRV's Do Muoi for Greetings *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 40
568 Enemy Soldiers Killed in 1990-91 Dry Season *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 40
Commentary Questions Heng Samrin's Peace Call *[Radio VOK]* 40

Indonesia

Malaysia To Repatriate 112 Seeking Refugee Status *[BERITA BUANA 24 Apr]* 41
Alatas on Continued Improvement in Australia Ties *[Jakarta Radio]* 41
Minister Says Government Will Not Harrass Press *[ANTARA]* 41

Philippines

Laurel: No Permanent Foreign Military Bases *[Manila Radio]* 42
Further Reportage on Indian President's Visit 42
    Talks With Aquino; Signs Accords *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 30 Apr]* 42
    Vow To Strengthen Economic Ties *[THE CHRONICLE 30 Apr]* 43
Senators Call Taiwan Sanction Threat 'Blackmail' *[THE CHRONICLE 1 May]* 44
Navy Reports Intrusions Into Maritime Borders *[THE CHRONICLE 1 May]* 44
President Aquino's 1 May Labor Day Speech *[Quezon City Radio]* 45
Aquino Signs State Workers' Benefits Agreement *[THE CHRONICLE 1 May]* 47
Aquino Leaves Resignation Decision to Ramos *[THE CHRONICLE 1 May]* 48
Army Head Assures Neutral Military in 1992 Polls *[MANILA BULLETIN 30 Apr]* 49
Ramos Assures 'Strategic Control' Over Insurgency *[MANILA BULLETIN 1 May]* 49
Senator on 'Alarming Offensive' by Insurgency *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 30 Apr]* 50
New Counterinsurgency Program on Mindoro Island *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 30 Apr]* 51
Rebels Kill Policemen, Militiaman in Pampanga *[DIYARYO FILIPINO 30 Apr]* 52

Thailand

Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu Continues Visit 52
    Accord With Anan on Cambodia *[KYODO]* 52
    Further on Talks With Anan *[BANGKOK POST 1 May]* 53
    Meets Khmer Resistance Leaders *[Bangkok TV]* 54
    Urges Peace Efforts *[KYODO]* 54
Paper Urges Japan To 'Refocus' Aid Policies *[BANGKOK POST 1 May]* 55
May Day Takes Second Place to Kaifu Visit *[THE NATION 1 May]* 56
Technical Committee To Survey Burmese Border 56
    Permanent Demarcation Line Proposed *[BANGKOK POST 1 May]* 56
    Army Probes Removal of Border Markers *[BANGKOK POST 1 May]* 57
Cabinet Approves 460.4 Billion Baht 1992 Budget *[THE NATION 1 May]* 57
Finance Ministry Reports Six Month Revenues *[Bangkok Radio]* 58

Vietnam

Minister: Over 100 Ex-Officials Held in Camps *[AFP]* 58
Program Views Cambodian Cease-Fire Proposal *[Hanoi International]* 59
NHAN DAN Editorial Marks Holidays *[VNA]* 59
Further Reportage on Indian President's Visit 59
    Nguyen Co Thach Calls Venkataraman *[Hanoi TV]* 59
    Vo Chi Cong Accepts Invitation *[Delhi Radio]* 60
    News Conference Held on Visit *[Hanoi Radio]* 60
    Concludes Hanoi Visit *[VNA]* 61
    Attends Ho Chi Minh City Banquet *[Delhi Radio]* 61
    Attends 'Grand Reception' *[Hanoi Radio]* 61
    Communique Released on Visit *[Hanoi Radio]* 61
    NHAN DAN Editorial on Visit *[Hanoi Radio]* 62
    Editorial Says Visit 'Splendid' Success *[VNA]* 63
Finance Minister Visits France 15-24 Apr *[VNA]* 63

Military Regions, Other Groups Hold Congresses 64
    2d Military Region Congress *[Hanoi Radio]* 64
    3d Military Region Congress, Part 1 *[Hanoi Radio]* 65
    3d Military Region Congress, Part 2 *[Hanoi Radio]* 66
    4th Military Region Congress *[Hanoi Radio]* 67
    7th Military Region Congress *[Hanoi Radio]* 68
    9th Military Region Congress *[Hanoi Radio]* 69
    Capital Military Region Congress *[Hanoi Radio]* 69
    Military Institute Congress *[Hanoi Radio]* 70
    Quyet Thang Army Corps Congress *[Hanoi Radio]* 70
Western Media's Coverage of Congress Questioned *[Hanoi Radio]* 71
Party Secretariat Meets With Media Editors *[Hanoi Radio]* 71
Ministries Hold Class on Taxation for Reporters *[Hanoi Radio]* 72
Leaders Attend Hanoi Education Conference *[Hanoi TV]* 72
Insects Threaten 120,000 Hectares of Rice *[Hanoi Radio]* 72

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

CSFR Federal Assembly Chairman Arrives *[Prague CTK]* 74

New Zealand

50,000 Protest Against New Law on Unions *[AFP]* 74
Further on Bolger-Nakayama Talks, GATT *[AFP]* 74
French Prime Minister Remarks on Nuclear Testing *[AFP]* 75
    Calls New Zealand Stand 'Weird' *[AFP]* 76
CSFR Federal Assembly Chairman Visits Wellington *[Prague Radio]* 76

IPU Conference Continues

Nuclear Proliferation Discussed at Session

SK3004152491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—The second-day sitting of the plenary session of the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Conference took place at the People's Palace of Culture today.

The debate on the third agenda item "Need To Prevent the Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction, To Ensure the Security of All States And To Strengthen Confidence-Building Measures in the Context of the Process of Disarmament" continued at the sitting.

Delegates of national parliamentary groups and international organizations made speeches there.

Noting that nuclear weapons today pose a menace to the survival of mankind worldwide, they stressed it is important, above all, to prevent the proliferation of nuclear and other mass destruction weapons and realize disarmament.

They pointed out that although a series of disarmament treaties have been signed between superpowers arms race is still gaining strength on the globe, and expressed deep apprehensions for the fact that nuclear arms race is being expanded even to outer space.

They called for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, a halt to the production of all chemical and biological weapons and their destruction.

They laid emphasis on the need to keep the Nuclear Non- Proliferation Treaty greatly effective and create nuclear-free zones in different parts of the world and on measures to this end and called upon the parliamentarians of every and each country to enhance their responsibility to ensure world peace and security.

The session continues.

Subcommittee meetings began today.

Policies Against Violence Discussed at 3d Session

SK0105100791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0845 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 1 (KCNA)—The third-day session of the 85th Interparliamentary Conference took place at the People's Palace of Culture today.

The debate on the fourth agenda item "Policies To Put an end to Violence Against Children and Women" continued at the session.

Delegates of national parliamentary groups and international organizations took the floor.

Calling attention to the fact that violence against children and women is being further fomented in many countries at present, the speakers deplored that their human rights are being ruthlessly violated and their lawful rights not ensured subsequently.

Noting that appropriate state policies and measures to put an end to violence against children and women have not been taken, they stressed the need for the parliaments of all countries to exert some influence on their governments to enforce legal, economic, social and clutural policies so as to thoroughly ensure the freedom, equality and rights of children and women.

The conference continues.

DPRK Official Gives ROK Delegate Message

SK0105082091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0754 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang, North Korea, May 1 (YONHAP)—Rep. Pak Chong-su, leader of the South Korean delegation to the 85th Interparliamentary Union (IPU) meeting in Pyongyang, was kept waiting about half an hour Wednesday by Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the North's Supreme People's Assembly [SPA].

When he eventually got around to welcoming Pak and expressing his gratitude for "the Southern support" for the IPU conference, Yang gave Pak a message for the Seoul government: "Team Spirit (the annual South Korea-U.S. military exercise) should be stopped completely."

"Summit leaders on both sides could solve any problem, once they get together," Pak responded, to which Yang said, "to hold the highest-level talks, working-level agreements are needed on various issues."

The verbal joust continued with Yang saying the inter-Korean parliamentarian talks and prime ministerial talks should be resumed soon.

Pak gave Yang a letter from National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun- kyu, inviting him to visit Seoul. Pak also proposed that lawmakers of the two Koreas exchange visits as was agreed in IPU meetings in Cyprus and Uruguay last year, but Yang was cool.

"The two sides may discuss such a question again," he said.

North-South Talks Desired 'As Soon As Possible'

SK0105093091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0914 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang, North Korea, May 1 (YONHAP)—North Korea is likely to resume stalled inter-Korean dialogue on various levels in the near future.

North Korea unilaterally suspended the prime ministers' talks and preliminary contact for parliamentary talks because of the South Korea-U.S. "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and the South's imprisonment of dissidents for visiting Pyongyang.

Senior North Korean officials, including the chairman of the Standing Committee of Supreme People's Assembly, Yang Hyong-sop, the chairman of the Assembly Unification Policy Committee, Yun Ki-pok, and the vice chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, Chon Kum-chol, have stressed the need to resume the inter-Korean dialogues in their meetings with South Korean delegates to the Inter-Parliamentary Union [IPU] meeting.

"The two sides should resume various kinds of inter-Korean dialogue as soon as possible and make earnest efforts for the talks not to be halted again," Yang said during a meeting with top South Korean delegate Pak Chong-su, chairman of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee.

Yang said the two sides could discuss ways to resume preliminary contact on parliamentary talks during the IPU meeting, Pak told reporters.

"The North Korean authorities seem to have decided in principle to reopen the inter-Korean dialogue," Pak said.

North Korea earlier pinpointed remarks by South Korean Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku about plans for a preemptive commando raid on North Korean nuclear facilities and the killing of a student demonstrator by riot policemen as stumbling blocks to resumption of the inter-Korean dialogue.

Kim Il-song Receives Parliamentarians

Receives Syrian Delegation

SK3004153391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1518 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the delegation of the Syrian parliamentary group headed by President of the People's Council 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah who is participating in the 85th conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Present on the occasion were Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly and chairman of the Parliamentary Group of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cha Pong-chu, vice- minister of Foreign Affairs, and Yasir Farah , Syrian Ambassador E.P. to Korea.

President Kim Il-song had a cordial and friendly conversation with the guests.

He was presented with a gift by the guests.

Receives Libyan Delegation

SK3004154691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the Libyan General People's Congress delegation led by Mahmoud Al-Khafif, assistant secretary general of the General People's Congress, on a visit to Korea.

Present at the occasion were Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, Kwon Min-chun, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and Abdel Hadi Mustafa, acting secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya here.

The head of the delegation conveyed a personal letter and a gift of Muammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great September First Revolution of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, to President Kim Il-song.

President Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this and had a talk with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He was presented with a gift by the guests.

Receives Pakistani Delegation

SK3004154091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1523 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the delegation of the Pakistani parliamentary group led by Speaker of the National Assembly Gohar Ayub Khan, which is participating in the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Conference.

Present on the occasion were chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly and chairman of the DPRK Parliamentary Group Yang Hyong- sop, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Cha Pong-chu and Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Pakistani Embassy here Shahid M. Aslam.

President Kim Il-song had a conversation with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He was presented with a gift by the guests.

Japan

Foreign Minister To Visit Iran, Egypt, Israel

OW0105082991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0742 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 1 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama plans to make an official tour of Iran, Egypt, and Israel from late May to early June for talks with leaders of the nations over stability and reconstruction in the region in the wake of the Persian Gulf war, government sources said Wednesday.

The sources said Nakayama is expected to visit the three nations for one week beginning around May 25, and that he is also considering a visit to Saudi Arabia.

It will be the second time a Japanese foreign minister will visit Israel since former Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno visited there in 1988, the sources said.

At meetings with the Mideast leaders, discussions will center on a peace plan in the Middle East, Palestinian problems, Kurdish refugees, as well as Japan's contribution to the international community, they said.

Nakayama also will talk about the three nations' own peace plans for the region, while seeking their understanding of Japan's efforts to help U.N. peacekeeping activities and war refugees, the sources said.

The foreign minister also will explain to them why Japan has dispatched its minesweepers to the Persian Gulf, they said.

Iraq Sounds Out Oil-Related Enterprises

OW0105062291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0608 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 1 KYODO—Iraq is preparing to resume oil exports in an apparent move to earn foreign exchange for reconstruction of the domestic economy destroyed by the Persian Gulf war, industry sources said Wednesday.

The sources said Iraq's state-run oil distribution corporation, SOMO, has sounded out oil-related enterprises in Japan and other countries on the possibility of resuming oil supplies from July.

The Japanese oil industry, however, has shown a cautious response because Japan's economic sanctions against Iraq still remain in force, they said.

Iraq exported more than 2 million barrels of its daily oil output of about 3 million barrels before the Gulf crisis last August. Its earnings from oil exports in 1989 amounted to 15.4 billion dollars.

Japan imported over 200,000 barrels per day from Iraq before the Gulf crisis.

Japan imposed sanctions against Iraq following Iraq's invasion of neighboring Kuwait on August 2, banning trade, including oil imports.

The industry sources said major oil fields in northern Iraq suffered only minor damage during the war.

Iraq submitted a request to the United Nations Security Council on April 16 asking it to allow the country to resume oil exports to raise funds for the purchase of medical and food supplies.

Defense Agency Director Meets Cheney in U.S.

OW3004234291 Tokyo KYODO in English 2303 GMT 30 Apr 91

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Washington, April 30 KYODO—U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney assured Japan's Defense Agency Director General Yukihiko Ikeda on Tuesday of American preparedness to defend Japan and other Asian allies, officials said.

A senior Japanese official said Cheney renewed U.S. assurances of the its commitment to Asian security, citing political uncertainties in the Soviet Union, China, and North Korea.

Ikeda and Cheney shared particular concern over Pyongyang's alleged efforts to develop nuclear weapons, the official told reporters.

A Pentagon spokesman said the meeting between Cheney and Ikeda was "cordial and substantive."

"The Secretary reiterated our intention to stay forward deployed in the region," the spokesman said, adding Ikeda "expressed his thanks for U.S. leadership in standing up to Iraqi aggression in Kuwait."

The Japanese and U.S. Defense chiefs also discussed military sales and arms cooperation issues, the Pentagon spokesman said.

Ikeda said at a news conference that he had urged Cheney to act quickly to hold the first two plus two security dialogue between Japan's foreign minister and its Defense Agency chief and the U.S. secretaries of State and Defense.

The two countries agreed to the security dialogue, proposed by Cheney, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty last year.

U.S. officials have maintained that Washington sees no need for the four Japanese and U.S. leaders to get together unless there are specific issues to tackle.

Ikeda said at his news conference that he believes North Korea should be required to accept further measures concerning monitoring of its nuclear reactors in addition to inspection of the facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The perceived North Korean threat to the north Asian region also came up in a separate meeting between Ikeda and Brent Scowcroft, President George Bush's national security affairs adviser.

Cheney and Scowcroft told the top Japanese Defense Agency official in the separate talks that the U.S. has been pleased with the dispatch of Japanese minesweepers to the Persian Gulf region.

The senior U.S. officials also hailed the signing of a new Host Nation Support [HNS] agreement between the two countries, and an official said Cheney called the HNS pact "a symbol of the importance the U.S. attaches to the security treaty with Japan."

Ikeda told Cheney, "I personally feel it regrettable about Japan's insufficient physical contributions to the allied forces due to constitutional constraint."

Ikeda made the remarks during the first top-level Japan-U.S. defense meeting for one year. His trip to the U.S. was the first by a director general of the Japanese Defense Agency in a little over three years.

Both Ikeda and Cheney were equally worried about the threats from the Soviet Union and North Korea, officials said.

Cheney, the leading skeptic among U.S. leaders of the Kremlin leadership, described as "a source of concern" the prospects for the Soviet Union in the short-term, according to a senior Japanese official who attended the Pentagon meeting.

The official said Ikeda in turn pointed to the steady qualitative improvement of the Soviet military deployed in the Far East.

Commenting on Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's trip to Japan on April 16-19, Ikeda told Cheney, "the timing of his visit to Japan was not necessarily the best."

Officials said Ikeda also told Cheney that Japanese leaders had been amazed by the "scant knowledge of Japanese society" among North Korean officials engaged in talks with Japan on normalizing relations between Tokyo and Pyongyang.

The Japanese minister stressed that North Korea should not be isolated from the international community, an official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Scowcroft said the Bush Administration considers it "unrealistic" to anticipate the maintenance of peace and stability solely by means of United Nations-sponsored peacekeeping forces.

Finance Minister on G-7 Cooperation Framework

OW3004154691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1528 GMT 30 Apr 91

[By Kazuo Mikami]

[Text] Washington, April 30 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said on Tuesday the world's major industrialized nations have agreed to maintain an international framework for policy coordination.

Hashimoto said there were some differences over the outlook for interest rates and other problems among the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations but that an international framework for coordinating monetary and fiscal policies was established.

The finance minister was meeting Japanese reporters after attending Sunday's G-7 gathering and the International Monetary Fund's interim committee meeting on Monday and Tuesday.

He said participants discussed whether priority should be given to averting an economic slowdown or keeping a lid on inflation.

"Japan maintained a neutral stance," Hashimoto said, adding "Expectations on Japan as a coordinator will grow further."

"In order to accomplish a common goal, the G-7 nations left minor differences," he said.

Bank of Japan [BOJ] Governor Yasushi Mieno, who was also present at the news conference, said the consusus that monetary and fiscal policies should be directed toward providing a basis for lower real interest rates and sustained global economic recovery with price stability was the most important result of the meetings.

On Japan's proposal for a new allocation of special drawing rights (SDRs) to cope with a looming global credit crunch, Hashimoto said the proposal had been welcomed by "a greater-than-expected" number of countries.

The proposal envisages allocating SDR 20 billion to IMF member states suffering from a fund shortage to help them ease tight liquidity, with an effective period of 10 years.

The SDR is a measure of a nation's reserve assets in the international monetary system known informally as "paper gold."

"The current international situation does not allow industrial powers to wrestle over macroeconomic issues," Hashimoto stressed.

He noted the unstable situation in the Soviet Union, Central and East European nations' efforts to shift toward market-oriented economies, reconstruction of Persian Gulf states, and huge debts in Latin America and developing nations.

On exchange rates, he reiterated Tokyo's view that the yen's value should be raised so that the currency will reflect Japan's strong economic fundamentals.

"It's a welcome development that the yen has begun to distance itself to some extent from European currencies vis-a-vis the U.S. dollar," he said.

BOJ Governor Mieno said economic expansion in Japan has been slowing down and that such a slowdown is "desirable."

Japan's rates of capacity utilization and job offers to job seekers are still at high levels, although there are signs of stability in prices, he said.

"Land prices are now relatively stable but could flare up again if credit is eased," Mieno warned.

"As referred to in the G-7 and interim committee communiques, real interest rates will go down if the industrial nations conduct monetary and fiscal policy appropriately based on their respective nation's conditions," Mieno said.

Hashimoto Welcomes U.S. Interest Rate Cut

OW3004154891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1534 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Washington, April 30 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto welcomed the reduction of the U.S. official discount rate by 0.5 percentage point to 5.5 percent on Tuesday, saying it would promote global economic stability.

"American economic growth is decelerating and it (the rate cut) appears to be aimed at reviving it," Hashimoto said during a break at the spring meeting of the development committe of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Hashimoto said, however, that Japan will pursue its own monetary policy, implying that the Bank of Japan should not necessarily be expected to follow the U.S. move.

French Finance Minister Pierre Beregovoy also hailed the U.S. Federal Reserve's action.

"It's a step in the right direction," Beregovoy told reporters.

'Source' on Monetary Policy

OW3004172191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1543 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 30 KYODO—A Bank of Japan (BOJ) source said Tuesday Japan's monetary policy will not be affected by the 0.5 percentage point cut earlier in the day in the key U.S. discount rate.

The U.S. Federal Reserve Board (Fed) lowered its official discount rate to 5.5 percent from 6 percent, effective immediately.

He said the timing of the rate cut was good for the U.S. in that it came before the economy was in danger of losing momentum.

The way that the Fed loosened credit was ideal since the move came shortly after financial leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrialized nations reaffirmed the need Sunday to lower interest rates while maintaining noninflationary economic growth, he said.

The source indicated that the BOJ was not surprised by the move, adding that the U.S. was not pressuring the Japan to follow its lead.

But the reduction could prompt Japan's central bank to lower its key rate if it would strengthen the yen and thereby reduce the nation's import bill.

A BOJ source in Washington accompanying BOJ Governor Yasushi Mieno to the G-7 and International Monetary Fund meetings in Washington said the rate is within the bounds of the G-7 accord in that each nation is expected to adhere to what it considers appropriate policy.

Planning Chief Suggests Lowering Interest Rate

OW0105012291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0011 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Washington, April 30 KYODO—Michio Ochi, director general of the Japanese Economic Planning Agency, suggested Tuesday Japan should follow the U.S. lead in lowering its key interest rate.

Ochi said at a news conference that the Federal Reserve's action in the morning to cut its key interest rate by 0.5 percentage point to 5.5 percent has produced a more mature climate in which Japan could take similar action.

"We have to take into account not only the Japanese domestic climate but other factors, including international flows of funds," he said after meeting Michael Boskin, chairman of the Presidential Council of Economic Advisers, and other senior U.S. officials.

Ochi also said Sunday's Group of Seven (G-7) agreement among the finance ministers and central bank governors of the world's seven largest industrial economies did not set any target exchange zone.

"At the G-7 meeting in April two years ago, the desirable rate was 135 yen to the dollar," he said.

The G-7 groups the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Britain, and Canada.

Keidanren Report on Food Material Price Gap

OW0105141191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1138 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 1 KYODO—The price gap between raw materials for food produced in Japan and abroad remains wide, according to a report released Wednesday by the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren).

The report, written from the perspective of industry, focuses on raw materials for food, which are heavily protected by the government.

The price gap remains firmly locked in place despite signs of improvement in Japan's protectionist policies, such as a reduction in government-supported prices.

The report also stressed the need to introduce a market mechanism for pricing within the rice industry.

Keidanren plans to submit a report to the government in the summer urging it to further relax its controls over raw materials for food.

The report, however, did commend the government for lowering the government purchase price for rice and flour and the minimum producers' price for sugar cane.

But the price differential of raw materials for food in Japan and abroad has not been bridged despite the government's efforts.

The price of raw materials for confectioneries, whose imports have been limited, are higher in Japan than in the United States.

For example, a kilogram of sugar, which costs 89 yen in the U.S., costs 177 yen in Japan.

Skim milk costs 530 yen in Japan compared with 355 yen in the U.S., while the price of cornstarch is 70 yen in Japan, higher than the 38 yen in the U.S.

Japanese firms cannot compete with their U.S. counterparts in the price of raw materials for food, said a Keidanren spokesman.

Japanese imports of rice cake cubes from the U.S., which were less than 4,000 tons in 1985, swelled to 7,000 tons in 1990.

The report calls on the government to limit its application of its food security law on a portion of the total amount of rice sold in Japan instead of all of it.

It urges the government to keep the purchase price of rice over a fixed amount of rice, while leaving the production and distribution of the remaining amount of rice up to a free-market mechanism.

Seamless Pipe Exports to USSR Delayed

OW3004181191 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Imports of seamless pipes, which are indispensable to crude oil production, from Japan has been delayed by a large margin in the Soviet Union. It seems that no business negotiations will be held during the second half of this year.

The seamless pipe is used for oil digging and is one of the major products exported from Japan to the Soviet Union. Due to a delay in Soviet payments last year, however, the Japanese side decided that seamless pipes will be produced and shipped after obtaining an endorsement from the Soviet Export and Import Public Corporation on the settlement of accounts.

The price of crude oil stabilized at a low level with the end of the Gulf war. Thus, it caused confusion in Soviet plans for the use of funds. The shipment of 100,000 tons of pipes, originally scheduled to be exported from April to June in accordance with a contract signed, has been suspended.

According to major trading firms that are engaged in joint negotiations with the Soviet side, there are no prospects for the Soviets to sign a contract for scheduled exports for this summer, which amounts to several hundred million dollars. Therefore, representative of trading firms and iron and steel manufacturers are scheduled to visit the Soviet Union for further negotiations after the end of the current long vacation [in Japan].

In the Soviet Union, top priority is given to the import of seamless pipes used for crude oil production. The fact that such pipes cannot be imported as scheduled indicates that the situation for foreign exchange has not turned for the better in the Soviet Union and that contrary to general expectations, it has become rather serious for our two nations to promote bilateral trade even after President Gorbachev's recent visit to Japan.

SDPJ Tokyo Chapter Supports Governor

OW0105135291 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] The Metropolitan Residents' Conference [MRC] under the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] of the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly has signed a policy agreement with Governor Suzuki whose party [the Liberal Democratic Party] has become a minority ruling party as a result of the recent gubernatorial election. Thus, the MRC will shift its position from the opposition party to that of the ruling party.

The policy agreement calls for a review of the plan for developing the Metropolitan sub-center on the waterfront, as well as appropriation of funds for the Peace Foundation. Secretary-General Agata of the SDPJ's MRC says that the party has decided on establishing cooperative relations from the standpoint of playing a role in the metropolitan politics and promoting reforms, while taking into consideration what the party can do to help Tokyo residents.

Workers Attend 1 May Rallies, Urge Less Work

OW0105083091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0729 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 1 KYODO—Hundreds of thousands of workers marked May Day on Wednesday and staged rallies across the nation on the theme of reducing the workload and working hours, and cutting land prices and taxes in order to raise living standards.

Organizers estimated that 3.6 million took part in rallies at 1,500 places across the country, while police estimated the turnout at 923,800 at 574 places.

Leaders of four opposition parties attended a rally in Tokyo organized by the nation's biggest labor federation, the 7.6 million- strong Rengo, the Japan trade union confederation.

Rengo's chairman, Akira Yamagishi, addressing an estimated 200,000 people at Yoyogi Park, appealed for workers' efforts to help change the country's political course.

Yamagishi called for a shift of priorities from the economy and industry to national life.

"It is crucial for us to urge politicians to change the national goal from the assisting of profit-making of business corporations to the protection of the livelihood of citizens," he said.

Social Democratic Party [SDP] Chairwoman Takako Doi, Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida, Democratic Socialist Party Chairman Keigo Ouchi, and Satsuki Eda, leader of the United Social Democratic Party, all vowed efforts to back up Rengo's demands.

Doi told the Rengo unionists, "our party will step up efforts to influence the nation's labor policies to ensure that Japanese workers are endowed with the better living standards commensurate with the nation's economic affluence."

The 835,000-member pro-communist Zenroren, the national confederation of trade unions, organized a separate rally at Kameido Park in Tokyo.

Zenroren leader Takeshi Oe said, "we must strive to actualize the living and working conditions that deserve the name of a human life by accomplishing solidarity among unionists."

Japanese Communist Party [JCP] Chairman Tetsuzo Fuwa, addressing the 80,000-strong rally, accused Rengo of joining forces with the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to form an anti-JCP campaign and of going against workers' interests.

Fuwa reiterated his opposition to the sending of Japanese minesweepers to the Persian Gulf, saying it challenges the constitution, in which Japan renounces the right to use force as a means of settling international disputes.

Zenroren issued a May Day declaration which said, "the dispatch of minesweepers contravened the Constitution and threatens to ravage the democratic institutions of this country."

Rengo's declaration did not mention the minesweeper mission, but said "we call for the establishment of everlasting world peace."

The statement came just a few weeks after the SDP, which criticized the dispatch of the minesweepers, lost hundreds of seats in nationwide mayoral and city assembly elections.

Rengo set a target at its rally to cut the average annual working hours in Japan to 1,800 in two years.

The Zenroren declaration condemned the government and business corporations for making workers liable to "karoshi"—death due to overwork.

Three Satellite Channels To Be Maintained

OW0105020091 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Nippon Hoso Kyokai [NHK] and private Japan Satellite Broadcasting [JSB] will be able to continue providing satellite broadcasts on three channels, despite problems with the Yuri 3-A satellite. They will make use of the Yuri 2-B satellite from mid- May to mid-August, while Yuri 3-A's power output is reduced.

Yuri 3-A puts out programs on three channels; two for NHK and one for JSB. However, due to malfunctioning of its solar batteries, Yuri 3-A's power output will not be enough between mid-May and mid- August. Thus, it will become difficult to transmit on three channels during that period.

NHK, JSB, and the Telecommunications Satellite Corporation, which manages Yuri 3-A, discussed problems and decided to make use of Yuri 2-B in addition to Yuri 3-A during this period, in order to maintain the full three-channel service. There will be no changes to programs as a result of the use of the two satellites.

NHK Satellite 1 will continue to be broadcast on Channel Seven and NHK Satellite 2 on Channel 11.

North Korea

North, South Agree on Dates for Soccer Tryout

SK0105132291 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] In response to questions raised by a reporter of the Korean Central News Agency in connection with the contact held today between working officials of both sides for the tryouts to select members of the North-South single soccer team, a spokesman of the DPRK Soccer Association gave answers as follows:

Concerning the issue of readjusting the date of the tryouts, our side considered that holding a soccer game in South Korea, where a student of Myongji University was beaten to death by the South Korean combat police and where the funeral has not even been held yet, is against etiquette and is unreasonable. Therefore, our side proposed that the tryout date scheduled in Seoul be readjusted, and that the first tryout be held in Pyongyang on 8 May and the second tryout be held in Seoul around 12 May, by which time the mourning of the sacrificed student and his funeral would be over.

The South side, however, did not accept our proposal, although it said it understands the fact that the visit of the North's champions to Seoul on 2 May is difficult.

Therefore, the two sides reached a principled agreement on holding a tryout in Seoul on 8 May, thus postponing the scheduled date, and then in Pyongyang on 12 May.

Our side added that the holding of a tryout in Seoul on 8 May takes the ending of the funeral of victimized student Kang Kyong-tae as a precondition.

South Denounced for Banning May Day Celebration

SK0105100491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0832 GMT 1 May 91

["Fascist Society Banning May Day"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 1 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today denounces the South Korean authorities for banning the celebration of May day by the South Korean workers.

The news analyst says:

The functions of May Day, the international holiday of the working class, are incriminated and made a target of repression in South Korea. This vividly reveals that South Korea is a dark fascist society.

The persons who try to observe May Day as a labour day are taken to jail at the point of the bayonet in South Korea even today when it is 40 odd years since national liberation.

Used in the suppression of workers in South Korea are modern combat equipment ranging from bayonets to tear gas canisters, armoured cars, tanks and helicopters.

Frightened at the fact that the enthusiasm of independence, democracy and reunification is daily growing and the fascist rule is shaking to its foundation, the South Korean authorities are seeking a way out in bloody suppression and trying to realize their ambition for long-term office.

Mobilization of modern combat tools in repressing workers is a sign of vulnerability, not a manifestation of strength.

A "regime" which prolongs its days by fascist crackdown can never last long.

Those who put down May Day demonstrations, using fascist violence as almighty means for the maintenance of the "regimes" are fated to face a stern judgement by history without exception.

The fate of the South Korean fascist group cannot be otherwise.

SKNDF View of South Student's Death Reported

SK2804095491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0901 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 28 (KCNA)—With no trick and expedient can the No Tae-u group of murderers evade our people's judgement, denunciation and protest against the murder of Kang Kyong-tae.

This is stressed by the spokesman of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] in his statement April 28 quoted by the Seoul-based radio Voice of National Salvation.

Noting that the No Tae-u fascist hangmen beat to death with iron clubs Kang Kyong-tae, a third year student of the Department of Industrial Management of Myongji University, in broad daylight before the eyes of citizens on April 26, the statement says:

The murder of Kang Kyong-tae is not an accident caused by "excessive crackdown" of some policemen but a murder caused by the institutional violence of the No Tae-u military fascist government and an inevitable outcome of its security-oriented politics.

It is a symbolic example of the ceaseless murder of people committed under the "Sixth Republic" and an extension of the Kwangju bloodbath in which thousands of democratic citizens were massacred.

The mastermind of the murder of Kang Kyong-tae is none other than No Tae-u, and the "Sixth Republic Government" is a heinous murderous regime.

Nevertheless, the traitor No Tae-u, like a thief crying "stop thief," shamelessly tries to shift the blame on to the people with an argument about "illegal violent demonstration" on campus.

This is an intolerable mockery of and an unpardonable challenge to the students and people who are rithing with sorrow at the death of Kang Kyong-tae.

The No Tae-u group of murderers must stand in the court for people's judgement, clearly mindful that with no expedient can it conceal its murderous colour which has been stripped naked.

The Paekkol group and combat police specialized in repression and murder and all other tools of violence must be dissolved at once, and all the fascist laws including the "National Security Law", the "law on assembly and demonstration" and the "law on punishment of users of flame bottles" which legalise and encourage the murder of people must be abolished without delay and unconditionally.

No Tae-u, the traitor and murderer, must make an open apology to the people for the murder of Kang Kyong-tae and step down.

26 Apr ROK Military 'Mobile' Exercise Reported

SK2904052391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities staged an "aerial mobile operation exhibition" war game in the eastern sector of the front on April 26, according to a radio report from Seoul. Artillery and infantry forces and helicopters were mobilized in the war game simulating a real war to strike the rear of the northern half of Korea.

The game, which was staged at a time when the U.S. imperialists, obsessed by megalomania through the Gulf war, openly revealed their attempt to invade the DPRK and the South Korean puppet defence minister declared an attack on the North, shows that the South Korean authorities are hell bent on preparations for a war against the North, not for peace and peaceful reunification.

U.S. 26 Apr Aerial, Ground Exercises Reported

SK2804085091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0806 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 28 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Air Force command Friday staged an aerial and ground joint strike exercise aimed at a surprise attack on the northern half of Korea by mobilizing 160 or more fighters of the U.S. Seventh Air Force in South Korea and the puppet air force, according to military sources.

Mobilized in this provocative war game in the skies above Kongju, Yongdong, Wonju, Yoju and Kunwi areas of South Korea were F-16, F-4, F-5, A-37 and other type fighter-bombers and assault planes.

On the same day the U.S. Pacific Air Force and Navy commands swiftly moved formations of F-15, A-6, EA-6 and other type fighter-bombers, assault planes and electronic jamming planes to the Osan and Kunsan airfields from Kadena, Atsuki and Iwakuni Bases of Japan and introduced into the Osan air base a formation of C-141 transport planes carrying military supplies from the U.S. mainland.

In the meantime, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets let U-2, RC-12, RV-1 and EH-60 high-altitude strategic and army tactical reconnaissance planes and electronic warfare helicopters fly above the Military Demarcation Line area and other areas of South Korea to commit aerial espionage and electronic photographing on our side.

At the same time, the South Korean puppets mobilized ground forces in Hwachon and Uijongbu to stage a land attack exercise under the support of F-4, F-5 and A-37 planes. They sent combat ships to the waters around Oeyon islet in West Sea for an attack operation in the sea under the support of F-4 and F-5 fighter bombers.

A total of 580 odd military planes were mobilized in the aerial military maneuvers in the skies above South Korea on April 26 alone.

Article Stresses Peace, Prosperity in Asia

SK2804090991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0826 GMT 28 Apr 91

["For Peace and Security in Asia"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 28 (KCNA)—To ensure peace and security in Asia is a precondition for the building of an independent and prosperous, New Asia, stresses NODONG SINMUN today in a signed article.

It says:

Ensuring peace and security in Asia where many imperialists' military bases for aggression and foreign troops have been posted, daily increasing the danger of war arises as an urgent question to improve the international situation as a whole and guarantee a durable peace in the world.

Saying that "the 21st century is the Pacific era", the United States is directing the spearhead of world strategy to Asia and openly pursuing its wild ambition to keep tight hold on domination and control over this region.

In order to guarantee peace and security in Asia, it is imperative, above all, to dismantle the military bases of the United States in this region and force its Armed Forces out of there.

The active struggle against aggression and war in Asia is the fundamental requirement for the ensurance of peace and security in this region.

Today the danger of another war of aggression against the North is increasing on the Korean peninsula. The U.S. imperialists who attach very importance to the position of South Korea in carrying out their Asia-Pacific strategy are trying to unleash another war of aggression against the North with South Korea as a forward base and bridgehead for the invasion of the DPRK and other Asian countries.

The U.S. imperialists, prattling that the Korean peninsula may be a point of new war outbreak after the Gulf war, have made public a manuscript to provoke another war on the Korean peninsula and the South Korean puppets openly threatened to "surprise and destroy the nuclear reactor facilities" of the North, which clearly disclose the intention of the U.S. imperialists to invade the North.

If another war is started by the U.S. imperialists on the Korean peninsula, it will soon turn into a nuclear war and its flames will swiftly spread beyond the boundary of Korea. Then, I will inevitably inflict nuclear holocaust upon the peoples of Asia and the rest of the world, to say nothing of the Korean people, and gravely destroy peace and security in the world. In order to ensure peace and security in Asia, therefore, it is imperative to actively struggle against the war policy of the United States, first of all, against the reccurence of war on the Korean peninsula. To prevent a war and defend peace on the Korean peninsula is an inevitable requirement for a guarnatee of peace and security in Asia.

* Comparing North, South Air Power

912C0193A Tokyo AEROSPACE JAPAN in Japanese No 1, Jan 91 pp 58-61

[Article by Kenchi Aoki: "Air Power of the ROK Navy, the ROK Army, and the North Korean People's Armed Forces Air Force"]

[Text] **The ROK Navy**

The air force of the ROK Navy is largely divided into ground and carrier-based units. First, the ground unit received Grumman S-2E Trackers used by the U.S. Navy in 1976, and the unit is still using these planes. In the 1976 delivery, the ground unit received 23 of them, and in 1981 another 5 old U.S. naval planes were added to them. Because of losses from accidents and by other causes, it now has a strength of 25 Trackers.

The Navy planned to modernize and remodel these Trackers into the S-2T version equipped with Garrett TPE331-15 turboprops. This plan, however, was not realized, and the Navy changed the plan and decided to purchase 8 to 16 new model planes toward the end of 1990. It is said that among aircraft under consideration as the new model aircraft are the BAe ATP, the DASH8, the Fokker 50, and the CN-235, all twin-engine turboprop aircraft additionally equipped with antisubmarine devices. Dassault Atlantique and Lockheed P-3C Orion models have also been added to the list of these planes, and the P-3 is considered the likeliest candidate at present.

Turning to the strength of helicopters, McDonnell Douglas/KAL 500MD Defenders, whose domestic production has been realized by Korean Air in Kimhae, and Aerospatiale SA316 Alouette III's are now being operated aboard helicopter-carrying destroyers of the "Gearing" class. As to the Alouette III, its replacement plan was established in the latter half of 1980, and a decision was made to introduce the Westland Super Lynx Mk99 as its successor aircraft.

This Super Lynx has a Ferranti Seaspray Mk3 maritime search radar system on its nose. In addition, it is equipped with general antisubmarine apparatuses such as a magnetic anomaly detector (MAD), dipping sonar, and electronic devices for electronic warfare. As to its assault armament, it can carry four Sea Skua anti-ship missiles. Of 12 planes ordered, 2 were handed over at Westland's Yeovil plant on 26 July 1990. Moreover, the ROK Navy is also studying a plan to purchase more than four Super Lynx planes additionally. Other than these helicopters, 2 Bell 206B Jet Rangers are now used at the 1056th Naval Air Unit.

[box, p 58] ROK Navy Aircraft on Hand

- Antisubmarine patrol planes: 25 Grumman S-2E Trackers
- Helicopters: 25 KAL/McDonnell Douglas 500MD Defenders, 10 Aerospatiale SA316B Alouette III's, 2 Bell 206B Jet Rangers, and 12 Westland Super Lynx Mk99's[a] (a: now under delivery) [end box]

The ROK Army

When inaugurated, the ROK Army Air Unit had five Kawasaki Bell 47G light observation helicopters and small numbers of Cessna O-1E's and the Dehavilland Aircraft of Canada's DHC-2 Beavers. Of them, fixed-wing planes were already decommissioned. However, Kawasaki Bell 47's are still used in flight training and for liaison. Forming the nucleus of the helicopter force at present are the KAL/McDonnell Douglass 500MD Defender and the Bell UH-1B/H Iroquois.

As to the McDonnell Douglass 500, about 200 helicopters of the model were delivered to the unit. Of them, 34 were manufactured in the United States and the remainder, assembled in the ROK. Of these planes assembled in the ROK, 50 are armed assault-type 500MD/TOW Defenders which carry BGM-71A antitank missiles. Concerning ordinary models used for observation purposes, about 144 of them have been delivered. These models, too, can equip themselves with light armaments such as 40mm rocket launchers.

To promote its air firepower, the ROK Army planned to introduce fully-armed Bell AH-1 helicopters in the mid-1970's, and eight used helicopters of the Bell AH-1J model were delivered from the United States in 1978. This was followed by a purchase in 1985 of 21 AH-1F's amounting to $178 million (including the cost of spare parts and assistance). Moreover, the ROK Army procured the same number of them in 1987 as well. The AH-1F deliveries began in mid-1989 and have been carried out at a pace of 3 planes each month. The ROK Army intends to increase the number of these Hueycobras to about 70 eventually.

Concerning the Bell UH-1 Iroquois, the ROK Army first received 25 UH-1B's in 1977 from the U.S. Army. Toward the end of 1984, it placed an order for 20 UH-1H's amounting to $9 million, and they began to be delivered in mid-1985. In addition, the U.S. Government approved an additional supply of 50 UH-1H's in 1986, and their deliveries continued after that. However, during their additional delivery, the ROK, seeking a newer model, worked out the H-X plan to choose the UH-1's successor (and to provide over 150 H-X planes).

Many planes were cited as candidates for the H-X, but the choice was finally made from among three models which were the Aerospatiale AS332L Super Puma, the Bell 412ST, and the Sikorsky S-70, and in June 1990 a decision was made to use the S-70's military version UH-60 Black Hawk. Under a contract concluded at that time, 3 UH-60L's were to be procured. In September of the same year an agreement was also reached on license production of a more developed model, the UH-60P, in the ROK, thereby effecting a full-scale start of the plan.

The engine system used in the UH-60P will be General Electric's T700-GE-701C (1,940 shaft horsepower), an output increase type, which enables an increase in gross weight, particularly in slung load. It raises performance in high temperature-highland conditions. The UH-60P has a improved durability gearbox with a capacity of 3,400 shaft horsepower. In addition, in response to the ROK Army's request, the airframe and part of the on-board electronic devices will also be changed. The initial batch of orders for the UH-60P is believed to be for about 90 planes, and the final number of Black Hawks to be produced in the ROK is expected to reach 200.

The ROK Army is also pushing ahead with another plan for the next-generation light helicopter which is to succeed the Defender. Three candidates for the selection are the Bell 406CS Combat Scout, the McDonnell Douglas 520 MK, and the MBB BO105CBS. About 150 planes will be procured. The selection of the model appears to be made shortly.

Concerning other models, the army ordered three Aerospatiale AS332L Super Pumas to use as VIP carriers toward the end of 1987, and they were received in 1988. Of them, one was lost from an accident. To use as large-type transportation helicopters, the ROK Army also ordered 20 Boeing CH-47D Chinooks in 1986 and received them from early 1988 to late 1989.

Taegu is the home base for all helicopters of the ROK Army, and they are deployed to dispersed bases at various localities when necessary.

[box, p 59] ROK Army Aircraft on Hand

- Helicopters: 140 KAL/McDonnell Douglas 500MD Defenders, 47 KAL/McDonnell Douglas 500MD/TOW Defenders, 20 Boeing CH-47D Chinooks, 30 and 40 Bell UH-1B and UH-1H Iroquoises respectively, 6 and 42 Bell AH-1J and AH-1F Hueycobras respectively, 3 Kawasaki Bell 47G's, and 2 Aerospatiale AS332L Super Pumas
- Under orders: 3 Sikorsky UH-60L Black Hawks and over 90 KAL/Sikorsky UH-60P Black Hawks [end box]

The North Korean People's Armed Forces Air Force

After the end of World War II, the Korean peninsula was bisected as a result of a struggle for leadership between the United States and the Soviet Union, and it further suffered serious harm because of the Korean war. The northern half of the peninsula is the DPRK (North Korea), a socialist and communist regime, which is continuing its confrontation with the ROK. Either of the two countries sets the goal at the improvement of relations and then the reunification of the Korean peninsula. However, there is a deep gap between their doctrines and assertions, and a state of tension has long been continuing.

North Korea does not permit the freedom of information; therefore, its military details are unknown. However, its total troop strength is estimated at some 1.04 million. In addition, it has 540,000 reservists who can be called up in a short time, and over 3 million people belong to militia organizations such as the Red Worker-Peasant Militia and the Red Youth Guards. The Air Force personnel also sharply increased from 24,000 to 55,000 in 10 years from 1975 to 1985. In a further increase, the number is said to have reached some 70,000 in 1989. Moreover, according to a ROK white paper on national defense, North Korea has over 1,600 planes, and has constructed more than 70 airbases called jet bases, non-jet bases, and emergency runways. It is said that airplanes are dispersed at over 20 of these bases. It is also said that major tactical planes are deployed at forward bases relatively close to the armistice line as well as areas around Pyongyang.

Its defense spending for 1989 is estimated at 4,000,000,600 won ($4.17 billion) [as published]. The country has adopted the conscription system with the army and the navy enforcing over 5-year compulsory service and the air force, between 3 and 4 years of service.

North Korea has rapidly modernized its air defense equipment and devices since 1984. This is attributed to its improvement and consolidation of relations with the Soviet Union. North Korea received new model equipment and devices from the Soviet Union and, instead, granted the Soviet Union the rights to pass through its territorial skies and to call at its harbors. As a countermeasure to a ROK decision to purchase the F-16C/D from the United States, deliveries of MiG-23 "Floggers" to North Korea began in May 1985. In addition, for 3 years from 1984, a defense network was established by installing the "Tin Shield" early warning/ground controlled interception/target acquisition radars and by deploying SA-2 "Guidelines" and 30 SA-3 "Goas," both ground-to-air missiles, at various localities. In 1987, North Korea also received long-range SA-5 "Gammons,-" thereby enhancing its air-defense capabilities further. North Korea is the only country outside the Soviet Union to have deployed the "Tin Shield" system.

In the field of aircraft, 15 MiG-29 "Fulcrums" and 6 Su-25 "Frogfoots" were delivered in 1988. As to "Frogfoots," a few of them (believed to be 4 planes) were also delivered in the second batch in 1989.

The North Korean Air Force suffered a large blow as a result of the Korean war, and it began to rebuild itself under a unified system of China and the Far East Soviet Command in 1957. Afterwards, however, North Korea adopted a policy of estrangement from the Soviet Union because of the latter's conclusion of a nuclear arms treaty with the United States. Its relations with China became closer, and its air force reorganization was carried out under a Chinese formula as a consequence. It received new "MiG-17" Frescos enough to make up 5 air combat regiments. As of 1963, the North Korean Air Force had about 350 Chinese-made MiG-15bis "Fagots" and MiG-17 "Frescos," thereby forming three combat air divisions, each consisting of 2 combat air regiments. Moreover, China turned over B-5 (Il-28 "Beagle") bombers, with which North Korea organized a ground attack division. In addition, China delivered BT-5 (Yak-18 "Max") and MiG-15UTI aircraft for training purposes and also C-5 (An-2 "Colt") light air carriers.

In 1965, with relations with the Soviet Union beginning to be rehabilitated, North Korea received MiG-21F "Fishbed C" day fighters and got support in training and other areas. As to the MiG-21F, it is also assembled in North Korea. However, it appears that the assembling was not a full-scale job in the past with North Korea simply connecting several finished parts brought in from the Soviet Union. At the same time, North Korea received F-6 (MiG-19 "Farmer") planes and used them as ground attack aircraft and also as air defense fighters, together with MiG- 21's.

As for air defense fighters, North Korea afterwards began to receive MiG-23 "Floggers" in May 1985 as stated above. The first batch of them totaled 26, and it received all planes by the end of 1986. After that, 34 were delivered additionally, bringing the total delivered to 60 aircraft. Of them, two were lost from accidents, according to an observation. The major armament of the North Korean Air Force's MiG-23 is the AA-7 "Apex" AAM [antiaircraft missile], and its MiG-21F carries AA-2 "Atoll" AAM's.

Due to the deliveries of MiG-23's, most of the F-6/MiG-19 planes now carry the mission of ground attacks. This mission is also assigned to remaining MiG-17's and Su-7BM "Fitter-A's" (only a few planes of this model were delivered from the Soviet Union, but their time of delivery is unknown). The same mission is also assigned to the A-5C "Fantan A" aircraft received from China. China had developed this plane independently by remodeling the MiG-19. About 40 A-5C's have been delivered since early 1989, and they are intended for replacing the B-5's or for increasing attack capabilities.

The newest attack plane is the Su-25 "Frogfoot," and North Korea began to receive it in 1988. Only one unit of the aircraft has thus far been organized. It is believed that air units formed with attack aircraft now total about 20. According to the ROK white paper on national defense, the North Korean Air Force has 820 tactical and 770 support planes. However, other Western nations share in the view that this represents a little overestimation.

The number of helicopters and the number of planes used for the commando deployment forces have also increased for the past several years. The primary aircraft used for the above purpose is the outmoded C5/An-2 "Colt." North Korea has about 200 C-5's, which are designed to be used for airborne unit jump-off operations and for STOL (short take-off and landing) activities to supply materials to special forces which have reached behind ROK troops on the frontline.

As to helicopters, until 1985, it had only 20 each of the Chinese-made H-5 (Mi-4 "Hound") and Mi-8 "Hip" helicopters to use for logistical support. However, the helicopter force has increased since 1986 through the deliveries of 50 Mi-24 "Hind D" armed attack helicopters and about 50 Mi-8/-17 "Hip C/H" helicopters. To use for coastal guard, about five Mi-14PL "Haze A's" have been delivered.

The boldest measure taken by North Korea to procure helicopters was its scheme to purchase over 100 McDonnell Douglas 500's through the intermediation of a West German private dealer. The reason for the move to bring in the helicopters was that, because the ROK military was using the same helicopters, it thought it could disguise procured helicopters as the ROK's through a repainting job and easily fly them into the ROK, carrying its secret agents and a certain size of military troops.

Their deliveries began at the end of 1983 through Rotterdam. A total of 87 helicopters were brought into North Korea. They break down into 20 Model 500D's, 66 Model 500E's, and the remaining one McDonnell Douglas 300C steering trainer. Using the same method, North Korea again planned to obtain the second batch of 15 helicopters. However, detected by the United States in January 1985, the plan was dropped.

Moreover, Euromissile conducted a campaign to sell HOT antitank missiles to be carried by the McDonnell Douglas 500, but the attempt was rejected. However, it is believed that at present about 60 Model 500's are equipped with AT-3 "Sagger" ATM's [antitank missiles] which were delivered after improvement of relations with the Soviet Union.

Military transport units have such large-size long-range aircraft as the Ilyshin Il-12 "Coach," the Ilyshin Il-14 "Coot," the Ilyshin Il-62M "Classic," the Tupolev Tu-134B-3 "Crusty," and the Tupolev Tu-154B "Careless." They also have 10 Antonov An-24 "Cokes." In addition, the Civil Aviation Administration of Korea (CAAK) has several Il-14's in stock, and in case of emergencies, all CAAK aircraft are to be engaged in military operations.

Pilot training is carried out at an aviation school in Wonji. The BT-6/Yak-18 "Max" and the CJ-6, which China developed independently, are used in the basic course, and the MiG-15UTI is used in the next advanced course. It appears that Czechoslovakian-made L-39 Albatros planes have also been brought in and are now used for the same purpose. After finishing these courses, trainees undergo practical conversion training, using actual double-seat warplanes. Major planes used in this training by the North Korean Air Force are only the HJ-5 (Il-28U "Mascot"), the FT-6 (MiG-19UTI), and the MiG-21U "Mongol." As for training with other models, particularly with the new MiG- 23, MiG-29, and Su-25, their conversion training appears to be received in the Soviet Union.

Lastly, according to the ROK white paper on national defense, the organization of North Korea's Korean People's Air Force [KPAF] is as follows:

The Air Force Command is situated in Chunghwa, and under the command is three equally-footed organizations. They are the Combat Group Command, the Air Division, and the CAAK. The Combat Group has regiments and the Air Division, combat regiments under their control.

As for major deployments, the 1st Air Group is located in Kaechon; the 2d, in Toksan; the 3d, in Hwangju; and the 8th, in Orang. North Korea has also built forward propellant jet airbases near the demilitarized zone to give the ROK a lesser time to watch for and prepare against its attacks. These bases are located in Kuup-ri, Hyon-ri, Nuchon-ri, and Taetan.

Concerning the fact that nearly half of the North Korean combat aircraft are outmoded versions, the ROK white paper on national defense says: "Although they are outmoded planes, their rates of operation are high because their maintenance is easy through direct production of parts in North Korea. Because of a lack in the depth of battlefields on the Korean peninsula, they can be employed effectively against tactical targets in anti-ground and other attacks."

[box, p 61] **Aircraft on Hand of the North Korean People's Armed Forces Air Force**

- Interceptors: 15 MiG-29 "Fulcrums," 150 MiG-21F/PF/M "Fishbed"/Chengdu F-7 aircraft, 58 MiG-23 "Floggers," and 50 Shenyang F-6's
- Fighter-bombers: 10 Sukhoi Su-25K "Frogfoots," 150 Shenyang F- 5's, 100 Shenyang F-6's, 40 Nanchang A-5C "Fantan A's," and 20 Su-7BM "Fitter A's"
- Light bombers: 50 Harbin H-5's
- Transports: 200 Nanchang C-5's, 10 An-24 "Cokes," 5 Il-12 "Coach"/Il-14 "Crate" aircraft, 2 and 3 Il-18/-18D "Coots" respectively, 4 Il-62M "Classics," 2 Tu-134B-3 "Crustys," and 4 Tu-154B "Carelesses"
- Trainers: 16 L-39 Albatroses, Nanchang BT-5's, 30 Nanchang CJ- 6's, 50 MiG-15UTI "Midgets," Harbin CJ-5's, Shenyang FT-6's, and 10 MiG-21U "Mongols"
- Helicopters: 1 Shweiser 300C, 20 McDonnell Douglas 500D's, 66 McDonnell Douglas 500E's, Mi-1 "Hares," 20 Pinkiang H-5's, 70 Mi- 8/-17 "Hips," 5 Mi-14PL "Haze A's," and 50 Mi-24 "Hind-D's" [end box]

South Group Protests Talk of War on Peninsula

SK2704151891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1457 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 27 (KCNA)—The International Committee of Jurists for Democracy and Human Rights in South Korea in a statement on April 19 denounced the United States and the South Korean authorities for recklessly scheming to unleash a new war of aggression on the Korean peninsula.

The U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff said in the "Annual Report on the Assessment of Military Force" on April 12 that next to the Gulf area, the Korean peninsula is fraught with the greatest danger of a local war and that if a war breaks out in Korea, a "fierce battle of 120 days at least will be inevitable" and the United States will send "reinforcements" more than 200,000 strong, the statement noted, and continued:

At the same time, the South Korean "defence minister", instigated by the United States, told reporters that if the North does not allow the international nuclear inspection, he will infiltrate commandoes into the north to destroy "atomic reactor facilities".

This is an open military threat and blackmail of the United States and the South Korean authorities against the DPRK and, in fact, a declaration of war.

The United States is directing the spearhead of attack to the DPRK which is dynamically advancing along the road of socialism, and with the backing of the United States the South Korean authorities, obsessed by megalomania of "unification by prevailing over communism", are going to unhesitatingly ignite a fuse of nuclear war that will exterminate the Korean nation.

We resolutely denounce the bellicose and aggressive war maneuvers of the United States and the South Korean authorities and strongly demand that the United States immediately withdraw its forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea and stop its intervention in the Korean people's right to self-determination.

We strongly demand that the South Korean authorities accept without delay the just proposals of the DPRK to solve the Korean question in an independent and peaceful way, not running riot in a war racket with the backing of the outside forces.

We call upon the world people who love peace and progress to condemn the adventurous war moves of the United States and the South Korean authorities and fully support the just struggle of the Korean people for national reuification.

Position Regarding Nuclear Inspection Maintained

SK2704050791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0452 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 27 (KCNA)—It is only too natural that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea maintains the position that it will sign the nuclear safeguards accord on condition that the nuclear weapons of the United States are pulled out of South Korea and it promises not to use them against North Korea, said the Indian paper PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY on April 21 in an article titled "The DPRK's Position on Nuclear Inspection".

Noting that the United States and some western countries keep utter silence about the U.S. nuclear weapons densely deployed in the whole area of South Korea, while demanding "international nuclear inspection" over the DPRK, the paper said:

Japan also raises the question of "international nuclear inspection" as one of the conditions for the normalisation of diplomatic relations with the DPRK.

In fact, the U.S. Government openly declares that it will use nuclear weapons against the DPRK and make preparations for their use through the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises which began in 1976.

If the United States is truly interested in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, it must respond to signing a peace agreement with the DPRK and withdraw nuclear weapons from South Korea without delay and stop the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

Kim Il-song Receives Cuban Delegation 28 Apr

SK2804085691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0833 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 28 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today received the delegation of the National Assembly of People's Power of the Republic of Cuba headed by its President Juan Escalona Reguera on a goodwill visit to the DPRK.

Present on the occasion were chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly Yang Hyong-sop, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Kim Hyong-u and Ambassador e.p. of the Republic of Cuba to the DPRK Juan Jose Leon Vega.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He was presented with a gift by the guests.

SPA Chairman Attends Cuban Delegation Talks

SK2704045691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1532 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 26 (KCNA)—Talks between the delegations of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) of the DPRK and the National Assembly of the People's Power of the Republic of Cuba took place at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today.

Present on our side were Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the SPA, Song Ho-kyong, vice-minister of foreign affairs, and officials concerned, and on the opposite side were members of the [word indistinct] headed by Juan Escalona Reguera, president of the National Assembly of the People's Power of Cuba, and Juan Jose Leon Vega, Cuban ambassador to Korea.

The sides informed each other of the situation of their countries and exchanged views on the further strengthening and development of the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parliaments and on a series of matters of common concern.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Kim Yong-nam Meets Tanzanian Delegation Arrival

SK0105001691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1508 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—A Tanzanian Government delegation led by Ahmad Hasan Diria, minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, arrived here today on a visit to Korea at the invitation of the DPRK Government.

It was met at the airport by Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, Vice-Minister of External Economic Affairs Chon Il- chun and others.

Holds Talks With Delegation

SK0105005491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1509 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam today met and had a friendly talk with the Tanzanian Government delegation led by Ahmad Hasan Diria, minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, when the latter paid a courtesy call on him.

Present on the occasion were Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Pak Ui-chun, Vice-Minister of External Economic Affairs Chon Il-chun and Tanzanian Ambassador to Korea Ferdinand K. Ruhinda.

Prepartions for May Day Celebration Reported

SK2904151491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1457 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—Korea is significantly greeting May Day as the holiday of the working class of the world.

Nim Kum-tong, director of the Propaganda Department of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, told KCNA that colorful events would be organized in Pyongyang and local cities on May Day to further strengthen the unity and might of the working class.

A grand joint friendship gathering will be held on the scenic islet of Nungna in Pyongyang with thousands of foreign guests and working people in the city in attendance.

The gathering will involve an art performance, sports and amusement games.

In the evening, a dancing party of Pyongyang working people will take place at the Kim Il-song Square and a banquet will be given at the Ongyu Restaurant for labour innovators from across the country and foreign diplomatic envoys accredited to Korea.

Dancing parties, athletic games and music and dance performances will also take place in local cities and at construction sites of grand projects and industrial establishments.

These areas are busy with preparations for the May Day celebrations.

Many mobile stalls are seen in workers' districts for special service for the working people.

Papers Dedicate Editorials

SK0105100991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0836 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 1 (KCNA)—Papers here dedicate editorials to May Day.

NODONG SINMUN says that today the working class and people of Korea, greeting May Day, the holiday of the working class of the world, with great pride, look back on the glorious path of socialism that they have covered, loudly singing the May Day song, a revolutionary song, under the leadership of the party and the leader and extend militant greetings and solidarity to the working class and people of all countries of the world.

On May Day, our working class and people are overflowing with great pride and honor in having successfully carried out their national and international duties, strengthening militant friendship with the working class of all countries of the world, the editorial notes, and goes on:

Our working class and people are faced with a noble task to accelerate more dynamically the cause of anti-imperialism and independence, the socialist cause, upholding the banner of the chuche idea.

They, adopting the party's slogan on living in our own way as their faith, should resolve all problems arising in the revolution and construction from the chuche-based stand and check the infiltration of any elements alien to the socialism of our own style.

As the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song said in his speech at the opening session of the 85th Interparliamentary Conference, to achieve Korea's reunification is a vital demand of our nation and one of the important questions which must be solved in international politics.

The South Korean authorities, however, desperately oppose our fair and aboveboard proposals for national reunification, seeking the nation's permanent division, and did not accept even our proposal that delegates of the workers in the North and South contact at one place on the occasion of this May Day.

It is South Korea alone where the workers are banned from celebrating May Day, the international holiday of the workers of the world. The South Korean working class must turn out more powerfully in the struggle to put an end to this tragedy and restore their holiday at an early date and to reunify the country in the '90s without fail.

It is a common task of the working class and whole mankind at present to struggle more powerfully to build a free and peaceful new world, upholding the banner of unity and militant solidarity.

The working class and people of all countries should actively develop the friendly and cooperative relations among nations on the principle of mutual respect, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit and wage a powerful international joint struggle against the policy of strength and for the checking of aggression and war.

We will in the future, too, make every effort possible to develop unity and friendly and cooperative relations and strengthen militant solidarity with the working class and people of all countries under the banner of independence, peace and friendship.

MINJU CHOSON says that the working class and progressive people of the world should firmly unite and strengthen and develop the bonds of friendship and cooperation, giving first consideration to the common cause of defending independence.

Joint Meeting With PRC Labor

SK0105083091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0819 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 1 (KCNA)—A joint friendship gathering of labour innovators in Sinuiju of Korea and Dandong of China on both sides of the River Amnok took place in Dandong on April 29 and 30 on the occasion of May Day, an international holiday of the world working class.

Labour innovators in Dandong warmly welcomed the labour innovators from Sinuiju at the entrance of "Bridge of China-Korea Friendship", beating drums and gongs.

Speeches were made at the gathering.

The speakers pointed out that it is very significant for labour innovators of Sinuiju and Dandong to visit each other and deepen the feelings of friendship every year in celebration of May Day.

Souvenirs weve exchanged at the joint gathering.

Then, the participants deepened the feelings of friendship, playing sports and amusement games.

The Dandong Federation of Trade Unions gave a party for the labour innovators from Sinuiju.

Kim Pok-sin, Kang Hui-won Attend Report Meeting

SK2704040791 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 23 Apr 91

[Excerpt] A report meeting to mark the 30th anniversary of dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's guidance to a Pyongyang textile machine plant was held in the Youth Central Hall yesterday.

Attending there were Comrade Kim Pok-sin and Comrade Kang Hui-won, alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice premiers of the Administration Council; Choe Mun-son, responsible secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Party's Committee and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee; and other functionaries concerned with employees of the Pyongyang textile machine plant, members of the three revolution team, and the working people of the city.

In the report meeting, Comrade Kim Pok-sin delivered the congratulatory message sent by the WPK Central Committee to workers, technicians, officials, and members of the three revolution team of the Pyongyang textile machine plant. [passage omitted]

Anniversary of Kim Chong-il Publication Marked

SK0105092791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0822 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 1 (KCNA)—A meeting was held at the Pyongyang international cinema house Tuesday to mark the 20th anniversary of the publication of the work "On Thoroughly Establishing the Creative System of Our-Style Revolutionary Films" by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The work is a talk of comrade Kim Chong-il to film makers on April 28, 1971.

Chang chol, vice-premier of the administration council and minister of culture and art, delivered a report at the meeting.

He said that in film art the old creative system was destroyed and a new one suitable to our reality and the nature of the creation of revolutionary films established.

The dear leader's theory on our-style literary and art creative system is the revolutionary banner which has made it possible to firmly adhere to the working-class principle in the literary and art creation and powerfully demonstrate the might of the socialist literary and art creation, the might of the film creation.

He noted that the multi-part feature films "Star of Korea" and "The Sun of the Nation" which successfully solved the portrayal of the leader in films and the feature films "The County Party Chief Secretary", "Guarantee" and "Bellflower" which give answers to the questions of fulfilling the party's intention were produced in the 1970s and 80s. He also reviewed achievements made in the production of documentary, scientific and children's films.

He pointed out that the achievements and experience gained in film art have been generalized in all sectors of literature and art so that five revolutionary operas were created on the basis of the creative system of "Sea of Blood"-style revolutionary opera, and five revolutionary dramas created on the basis of creating "The Shrine"-style revolutionary dramas and achievements have been made in the creation of music, dance, circus, fine art and novel.

He called on men of literature and art to steadily maintain our-style revolutionary creative system and strictly apply it to the creation of works.

A seminar on this work of Comrade Kim Chong-il took place on the same day.

Journalists Meet in Pyongyang for Training

SK0105084491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0802 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 1 (KCNA)—Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, met and had a friendly conversation with the pressmen and journalists of different countries who had participated in the International Training Course for Journalists at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on April 30.

Giving their impressions of Pyongyang and local areas which they went round, the guests said that the struggle of the Korean people who are advancing under the banner of the chuche idea founded by the great leader President Kim Il-song serves the revolutionary peoples of the world as a model.

Korea is playing a vanguard role in socialist construction, they said, and stressed: All the achievements of your country are a fruition of the wise leadership of the great president and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Pointing out that the occupation of South Korea by the United States is the cause of the division of Korea, they said the U.S. imperialists, the very one responsible for the division of Korea, must get out of South Korea without delay.

Korea must be reunified at an early date in accordance with the proposal put forward by President Kim Il-song, they stressed.

Training Course Concludes 30 Apr

SK0105085591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0809 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 1 (KCNA)—The International Training Course for Journalists which opened in Pyongyang on April 10 closed on the 30th.

The closing ceremony of the course took place at the Pyongyang International Cinema House.

Present there were Kim Ki-yong, chairman of the Information Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, other officials concerned and pressmen and journalists of different countries who participated in the course.

The closing address was followed by speeches of pressmen of different countries.

A letter of thanks to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was adopted at the closing ceremony.

The Central Committee of the Korean Journalists Union gave a party in the evening.

People's Unity Around Party, Leader Stressed

SK0105062691 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2358 GMT 14 Apr 91

[NODONG SINMUN 15 April editorial: "Let Us Vigorously Advance Along the Road to Socialism by Further Firmly Uniting Around the Party and the Leader"]

[Text] With the firm certainty toward the justness and victory of their cause, our people are vigorously advancing along the road to socialism.

Our people's invincibility, which is being displayed amid the advance of the revolution, and the fundamental source of the victory in our socialism, lies in single-hearted unity.

During the long period of some 60 years, our people highly upheld the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as the center of unity, and in the road of carrying out the revolution which is in accordance with the leadership of the party and the leader, our Korea was filled with the glory of the past as well as of today and was provided with a magnificent future.

The nation's might and pride lies in the fact that the party and the leader are great, and that all the people are united around the party and the leader.

Upholding the great leader who pioneered the revolutionary cause and who founded the party—invariably at the head of the party and the revolution—and making the whole party, the whole people, and the whole army unite solidly around the party center, are our people's greatest dignity and national pride.

The single-hearted unity of the party and the popular masses has been strengthened more than ever before. Through this might, the great socialist march of the nineties is being accelerated vigorously. Amidst this kind of environment, we are significantly welcoming the festive national holiday of the birthday of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

All the people of the whole nation are overfilled with delight and happiness, and all the people are paying the greatest honor and the most lofty respect to the respected and beloved leader. Also, all the people who are endlessly united around the party and the leader are firmly determined to complete the chuche socialist cause.

The respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song is a great leader who was received and highly upheld for the first time in our nation's history of some several thousand years. He is also a great father who brilliantly leads the fate of our fatherland and nation.

The history of the revolutionary activities of the respected and beloved leader is the history of a great strategist and of a genius in creation and construction who pioneers and leads a true socialist cause for the working popular masses' independent stand and attitude, and who creates worldwide miracles and feats; it is an epic struggle of legendary heroes who have been ever-victorious in the struggle against the progress and the enemies of socialism; and it is the most skilled history of the leader which achieves a solid, single-hearted unity which had not existed before in the history of the revolutionary movement of the working class and which certainly achieves ahead of schedule a brilliant future for communism with that might.

Through this kind of history, without trivial twists and turns, our people's socialist cause have been endlessly advanced, have been victorious, and have reached a high stage of modeling the whole society after the chuche idea.

The revolutionary cause which the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song carried out throughout his life is a cause which constructs socialism and communism under the banner of the chuche idea. This blossoms our people's epoch-making desire and ideal to completely realize their independent stand and attitude; vigorously builds a magnificent people's paradise on this land; and makes it possible for our Korea to carry out the lofty struggle which is elucidated all over the world.

The invincible strength in this struggle to pioneer the advanced road of the party, the people, the fatherland, and the nation lies in the united chuche. There is no other mighty and victorious weapon than unity. Our people's struggle to achieve socialism eloquently proves that the success or failure of the socialist cause lies in its single-hearted unity.

When looking back upon the past, we have great dignity and pride in having united around the party and the leader in difficult conditions because the difficulties that were created were overcome through their own strength, and we also have great dignity and pride of having victoriously advanced our socialist cause.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Since the party and the popular masses became one in flesh and spirit that cannot be smashed by whatever force, we were able to successfully carry out the difficult and complicated tasks of constructing a new democratic Korea after liberation; were able to overcome the rigorous trials of the

Fatherland Liberation War; and were able to remove the scars of war and magnificently build a mighty socialist country of self-dependence, self-support, and self-reliant defense in a short time by making strenuous efforts over the ashes of the postwar days.

The tradition of cohesion and unity among the leader, the party, and the masses in our country was achieved during the dawning of the revolution.

At that time the youth communists of Korea were firmly united around the leader with the firm faith that victory in the revolution can be achieved only when they uphold the great Comrade Kim Il-song as the leader and when they uphold his leadership. Also, in order to fulfill the leader's idea and line they fought by devoting the heyday of their youth and their life. This cohesion and unity, which is an example of the blood-tied unity, becomes an eternal foundation of our single-hearted unity.

Since the great cohesion and unity was achieved centering around the leader during the early period when our revolution was being pioneered and during the early period when the party was taking root, our people were successful in the arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle; were able to bring an end to the history of the ordeals of the nation; and our socialism pressed hard on the heels of the enemy upon the tradition of unity.

The course which our party experienced after the liberation was a process of strengthening the single-hearted unity, in which the whole party and the people firmly united as one social and political organic body around the party Central Committee centering around the leader. Also, this was a path in which according to the strength of unity, the multilayered barriers and trials were overcome and the socialist path never walked by anyone, was successfully pioneered.

The construction of a new fatherland and the Fatherland Liberation War were difficult struggles in which our people moved forward on the road toward socialism. During this time, our Korea was faced with the fate of whether to move toward progress and socialism or be degraded once again toward colonialism.

Nevertheless, according to the appeal of the great leader, our people united under the banner of the founding of the nation and successfully constructed a new democratic Korea by the strength of those who have strength and by the knowledge and money of those who have knowledge and money. Also, by uniting around the leader who is an ever-victorious iron-willed commander, all the strength of the whole nation and the whole army was devoted for the victory in the war, thus our people defeated the U.S. imperialists and the freedom and independence of the fatherland were defended honorably.

This was a historic victory in which our people entrusted their fate to the great leader, and according to the leadership of the leader, it was possible for our people to further vigorously fight for the future of socialism and communism.

The socialist revolution and the socialist construction were worthwhile struggles which compiled the success tower of socialism according to the new accurate road. In this difficult struggle, a miracle that surprised the world, which had not existed in the social revolution and in the history of the creative construction, was achieved.

Even under the condition where material and technological bases were insufficient, socialist reform in the production field was realized easily, and the socialist cause of industrialization was brilliantly completed after the postwar days in a short time, when everything was in ashes. This was due to nothing other than the united might of chuche.

The struggle to model the whole society after the chuche idea is an advance to develop and complete the socialism of our style. This advance is being ceaselessly advanced and is victorious with the infinite vitality which has been further consolidated as invincible under the leadership of the party through our might of the single-hearted unity.

The struggle against the enemies of the revolution, the struggle to oppose various kinds of antirevolutionary trends, and our people's advance movement which is united around the party and the leader and which has undergone many hardships amid the difficult and complicated struggle to achieve socialism, cannot be blocked by anyone.

Our single-hearted unity was by no means obtained by itself through the hardships of the revolutionary struggle, but was achieved, consolidated, and developed through the extraordinary greatness of the party and the leader.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the excellent philosopher and theorist who has brilliantly consummated the revolutionary ideology of the working class by creating the chuche idea reflecting the demands of a new era of history. He has enjoyed the people's trust as the great statesman who leads our people to the single road of victory even under unprecedentedly complicated circumstances. By holding the respected and beloved leader in high esteem, our people not only have become the master of their destiny and the independent main force of the socialist cause, but have also demonstrated the nation's honor and dignity.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has devoted his whole life for our people and for our revolution, undergoing all sorts of hardships and difficulties, and has completely changed the position of our fatherland and nation. In the course of breaking through the storms of the revolution under the leadership of the great leader, our people have mastered deep in their hearts the greatness of the leader and have firmly united as one mind and as one will around the leader, looking up at him as the sun of the nation.

Our people think of our nation and themselves in close combination with the respected and beloved leader, and their thinking and acts are based on the leader's ideology and intent. This is precisely our people's disposition.

The boundless national glory and happiness of holding in high esteem the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the matchless person, who has won high prestige among the Korean nation, as well as the progressive people of the world, and of struggling, holding aloft the banner of the leader's chuche idea, have become the great centripetal force of our single-hearted unity.

Firmly standing at the center of our revolutionary movement, cohesion, and unity represent the glorious Workers' Party of Korea [WPK]. Our party, the great guide of the revolutionary cause of chuche, has constantly enhanced the position of the fatherland and the nation and registered immortal revolutionary achievements for history and mankind by leading the socialist cause of our people to victory through its extraordinary ideological and theoretical activities and through its practice of the revolution. As a result, the golden age of the era of the Workers' Party, the era of the prosperity of the country and the nation, is being unfolded on the land of the fatherland today.

Our party's ideal and ambition are far-sighted, and the operations for their realization are bold and broad. Our people's firm faith to follow to the end our party, which has been tempered and deepened through history and reality, and to faithfully uphold the party's leadership can never be shaken. Our single-hearted unity has become the most solid and mightiest one because all the people have been firmly united around the great leader and the great party with firm faith. All party members and the people are vigorously struggling for the victory of the socialist cause, firmly arming themselves with the revolutionary ideology of our party, firmly believing the party and the leader as their hearts and brains, and firmly uniting with them ideologically, mentally, morally, and in terms of sense of obligation. This is precisely the revolutionary ethos of our society.

Our leader, party, and people are an eternal united body which casts in their destiny with each other and an invincible monolithic body. This is the real appearance of the great single-hearted unity which has been achieved because the party and the leader are great and because all the people are truly loyal to the party and the leader. The single-hearted unity is the greatest historical gains of our revolution and is the greatest asset of the assets for the victory of the socialist cause and for the future of the nation. That our single-hearted unity firmly guarantees the victory of our socialism lies, more than anything, in the fact that it leads us to resolutely safeguard and defend the chuche idea.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee, has indicated: We have more brilliantly solved the problem of consolidating and developing the ideological foundation of socialism because we have the chuche idea.

The ideological foundation of socialism which has embodied the revolutionary ideology of the working class should be firm and solid. What is most important in consolidating and defending the ideological foundation of socialism is the extraordinary ideological and theoretical wisdom of the party and the leader and the ideological faith of the united people. Our single-hearted unity is the single-hearted unity of ideology based on the chuche idea which is the ideological basis of our socialism. It is the greatest achievement of the great leader for the times and history that he created the immortal chuche idea and has consummated it as the monolithic revolutionary ideology.

The chuche idea which was created by the respected and beloved leader and which has been developed and enriched by our party is the great revolutionary ideology which extensively reflects the indepenent demands and aspirations of the popular masses. It is also the invincible banner, the truthfulness and vitality of which have been proven in the struggle for sovereignty, independence, and socialism.

With its scientific, revolutionary and practical character, the chuche idea deeply captivated our people's hearts and enabled us to accelerate the work of ideologically dyeing our society with one color.

Our society, where the leader, the party, and the masses have attained single-hearted unity, has become a unified body of the ideological will of the revolutionaries who take the chuche idea as their outlook on the world.

The chuche idea is the life of our party and our state. It is our people's unwavering faith that they regard the chuche idea more preciously than their own lives and unless they take it as their guideline, they can neither live nor build socialism.

All the people know only one ideology—the chuche idea—and absolutely believe in it. They regard this ideology as the ideal for their lives and as a starting point of all thoughts and practices. Herein lies the ideological purity and firmness of our society.

The man-centered chuche idea is not a pure philosophical theory but a powerful weapon for struggle which enables one to pioneer the people's destiny and to realize the ideal of independence.

Because all party members and workers are firmly armed with the chuche idea and live and fight in accordance with its demand, our own style of man-centered socialism is stabilized and its superiority has been highly displayed. Thus, various antirevolutionary ideological tendencies running counter to the chuche idea cannot infiltrate into the inner part of our society.

Our realities show that the single-hearted unity of the entire society, which is dominated by the monolithic nature of ideology, is the indomitable fortress defending socialism and is a basic secret in accomplishing the socialist and communist cause to the end without any deviation.

Our single-hearted unity firmly guarantees the victory of our socialism because it ensures the monolithic nature and continuity of the leadership.

The lifeline of the socialist cause lies in the leadership of the party and the leader. The monolithic nature and continuity of such leadership are ensured by the firmness of the center of the unity.

It is a great revolutionary achievement of the respected leader that he brilliantly resolved the issue of inheriting the center of the unity, generation after generation, and arranged for the leadership to be firmly inherited.

Our single-hearted unity is the great unity and cohesion in which the firm and unwavering center is inherited generation after generation. The firmness of the center in the single-hearted unity depends on how all the people are rallied behind the leader.

Our people voluntarily united themselves around the party and the leader with a lofty awareness and sense of loyalty, not prompted by any fundamental way of thinking [ko otton wollijok sago], and a sense of duty.

It is the basic character and nature of our people to tenaciously defend and protect our party and leader by absolutely trusting them and to highly uphold them.

The hearts of all of our people, ranging from old revolutionaries to today's generation, are always burning with loyalty and filial piety to sincerely uphold the party and the leader, and are filled with an iron-clad will and resolution to trust and follow only the party and the leader, no matter what wind may blow, and to share their destinies.

There are no other such loyal vanguards as our party, no such loyal combat units as our army, and no such great loyal group as our people.

Because we uphold the great leader in the center of unity and because the entire party, the entire people, and the entire army have attained unity based on absolute and unconditional loyalty, our single-hearted unity is firm, unwavering, and strong.

Our party, the center of unity, is further accelerating the march to accomplish the socialist and communist cause to the end by cherishing lofty goals and conviction.

The great leader is invariably breaking through the road of sacred struggle for socialism at the vanguard, along which he traversed from 60 years ago, and is making every effort to enable all people to eat rich cooked rice with meat soup, to wear silk clothes and to live in a tile-roofed house.

The glorious party center is leading our revolution along the single road of victory with a firm determination to build prosperous and flourishing socialist and communist society on this land by leading the party, no matter what storm may lie ahead, and by uniting all people as one.

The faith and ideas of the party and the leader for our socialism have become a firm will and vital demand of all the people. The main force of our revolution, which has attained the single-hearted unity, is the strong and powerful rank of struggle which takes our party and leader as its center. Our party and leader are the thoroughgoing defender of socialism and a refined leader.

Today our party members and workers are thoroughly carrying out the party's line and policy with the resolution, "What the party decides, we will do," and the entire party, the entire nation and all the people are building great monumental creations, unanimously rising according to the party's appeal. They are also carrying out the gigantic nature-remaking work in a quick manner.

Socialism in our country, where the center of unity is firm and is being brilliantly inherited, will victoriously advance under the leadership of the party and the leader without wavering under any circumstance.

Our single-hearted unity, which has filled the entire society with revolutionary sense of obligation and comradeship, is consolidating and developing our socialism, and is highly displaying its superiority.

Unlike the exploiting system, socialism is a harmonious society. Socialism can be consolidated and developed and its superiority can be demonstrated when it advances along the direction of strengthening collectivism based on its original character.

The firmness and important superiority of our style of socialism are that the entire society constituted a great harmonious family. Our single-hearted unity is the firm comradely unity.

Since collectivism is most highly displayed in a sociopolitical organism which attained the single-hearted unity among the leader, the party and the masses, our society is filled with a revolutionary sense of obligation and comradeship.

The revolutionary sense of obligation and comradeship in our sociopolitical organism are formed with the leader—the supreme brain—as their center. Our people respect and follow the leader [suryong] not only as the leader [yongdoja] of the revolution but also as great father and comrade. Thus, we are dedicating our loyalty to him.

In our socialist society, the party and popular masses attained the single-hearted unity with the leader as their center based on the revolutionary sense of obligation and comradeship. We proudly call this society a great harmonious revolutionary family who uphold the leader as father.

The mighty main force of social movement is the popular masses who are united on the basis of collectivism. The main force of our socialist cause is a great united body in which the leader trusts, ardently loves and looks after the people and the people follow and devotedly render loyalty to the leader.

Based on the sense of loyalty to the party and to the leader, our party members and workers are helping and leading each other under the communist principle, "One for all, all for one," and are devotedly struggling for society, groups, fatherland, and people.

Because all the people are consolidating the comradely unity and cooperation with the leader as their center, no one can cope with our might, and no reactionary offensive by the imperialists can confront us.

Since it emerged in the stage of history, the working class waged a long arduous struggle for socialism by upholding the banner of unity. Our people absolutely believe that our socialism, which we chose based on our faith under the leadership of the party and the leader and which we safeguarded and developed through our own bloody struggle and creative labor, is most superior. We are filled with the strong will of struggle to glorify our style of socialism generation after generation with the might of the single-hearted unity.

Our socialism which has taken deep roots on the foundation of single-hearted unity will, in the future, too, advance along the road of victory and prosperity, while surmounting all sorts of challenges of history. Today, we are faced with the heavy but honorable task of enhancing more highly the superiority of our socialism by vigorously accelerating the revolution and construction, holding aloft the revolutionary banner of the chuche idea. To successfully carry out this task, it is imperative to consolidate our single-hearted unity like bedrock and to actively demonstrate its might.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, has indicated: Defending, strengthening, and developing the single-hearted unity of the leader, the party, and the masses generation after generation is the firm guarantee for the final completion of the socialist cause.

Strengthening unity is a vital task on which we should concentrate priority efforts for the party, for the destiny of the revolution, and the future of the nation so long as the revolution continues. Neglecting the work of strengthening unity or leaving it half done should be avoided. Our people are the revolutionary people who have mastered the truth of unity through the arduous revolutionary struggle and who have appreciated its true taste through great historical victories.

Our people, who experienced the bitter grief of national ruin due to a factional split in the past despite their long history and who underwent heart-rending failure and pains in the previous national liberation movement and the early communist movement, have created the history of great unity which is full of rewarding struggle and victory ever since the time when they upheld the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song in the front of the revolution.

At every period of trials in the past, the trust between our party and our people further deepened, the strength of unity further strengthened, and the revolution advanced more rapidly. This is indeed an outstanding traditional ethos. We are still on the road of the arduous revolution. We should continue to concentrate interests on strengthening the united main force of the revolution in order to glorify the traditional ethos that has pioneered the road of victory of the revolution by surmounting all sorts of difficulties and trials with the strength of single-hearted unity.

Keeping in mind the truth of history that when the party—the vanguard of the working class and the working masses—becomes powerful the people, too, become powerful and can add luster to the sovereignty and dignity of the nation and that otherwise all precious things of the nation will be lost, we should concentrate our efforts on strengthening the party's cohesion and unity and enhancing its leadership role.

We should thoroughly establish the unitary ideological system of the party in the entire party and the whole society, should foster cadres and party members to become loyal retainers and filial sons who are loyal to the party and the revolutionary cause, and should strengthen work with the masses of all walks of life to more firmly rally them around the party. Only by so doing can cadres, party members, and the masses of all walks of life defend the banner of chuche, the banner of socialism, and brilliantly consummate the revolutionary cause under all circumstances. What is important here is for all party organizations and party functionaries to hold aloft the party's slogan, "We will serve the people," and to thoroughly embody the spirit of the slogan in their works and lives.

To strengthen our single-hearted unity and to accelerate the socialist cause with its might, it is imperative to more thoroughly establish chuche. The purpose of strengthening unity is to consummate the socialist cause of chuche. The course of constructing socialism by embodying the chuche idea is precisely the course of thoroughly establishing chuche. In the flow of a complicated and difficult situation, the revolution cannot be carried out to the end without thoroughly establishing chuche. Holding aloft the revolutionary slogans with regard to living in our own way, we should firmly establish chuche and thoroughly implement the revolutionary line of self-dependence, self-support, and self-reliant defense. Thus, we should add luster to our viable socialism and consolidate and develop it.

All party members and the working people should firmly arm themselves with the chuche idea and its embodiment—the line and policy of the party—and should cherish deep in their hearts lofty national dignity and pride and resolutely struggle against all sorts of old ideological trends. Along with this, they should resolutely defend and implement the principle of the revolution, the principle of socialism, in all fields of state and social life in conformity with the basic demands of socialist construction and with the principles of the revolutionary movement.

The glorious revolutionary tradition of our party is an asset for the ages which is infinitely precious in consummating the socialist cause by strengthening our single-hearted unity and, thus, by enhancing its might. The achievements registered by the great leader and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in the historic course in which our people have built the superior socialism of our own style and, thus, have achieved great national prosperity are indeed the great ones which cannot be found anywhere else in the world. The work to consummate the socialist cause of chuche is the struggle to defend and develop these revolutionary achievements generation after generation.

Keeping in mind that adding luster to the achievements of the party and the leader determines the future of the revolution and the future destiny of the nation, we should devote our all to the struggle to develop these achievements. Herein lie the first revolutionary duties of our party members and the working people and the purpose of their lives and struggle.

All party members and the working people should firmly arm themselves with the revolutionary tradition of our party and resolutely safeguard, defend, and embody it. Thus, they should strengthen our single-hearted unity. Effecting upsurges in socialist construction through the strength of single-hearted unity is an important task which arises in accelerating the socialist cause.

Holding aloft the banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—we should more vigorously push ahead with the revolutionary struggle and construction and, thus, expedite the complete victory of socialism. At the same time, we should deeply realize the national sense of mission which should demonstrate the honor of the Korean nation on a nationwide scale and should vigorously struggle to achieve the great unity of the nation and to realize the historic cause of national reunification at the earliest possible date.

Our party and our people will, in the future, too, continue to resolutely struggle against imperialism, for peace, and for the realization of the cause of making the world independent, holding aloft the slogan of independence, peace, and friendship and uniting all the progressive people of the world. The future of our party and people is infinitely promising and bright, and the socialist cause will bring greater glory and happiness to our people in the future. There will be always victory on the road ahead of our people who are advancing, holding aloft the banner of the chuche idea under the leadership of the great leader and the great party. Let all of us more staunchly advance to add luster to our socialism and to consummate the revolutionary cause of chuche by more firmly rallying around the party and the leader.

Daily Stresses Unity Between Army, People

SK0105114591 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0006 GMT 23 Apr 91

[NODONG SINMUN 23 April editorial: "Let Us More Fully Bring Into Bloom the Fine Custom of the Unity Between the Army and the People"]

[Text] It has been 59 years since our revolutionary armed forces declared its birth in the forest of Mt. Paektu.

With the approach of the 59th anniversary of the revolutionary armed forces we are particularly proud that the army and the people have been firmly united in one mind and purpose, in the process of upholding the party's leadership.

Under the single desire to uphold the party's leadership, there has been such a fine custom of firm unity and noble cooperation between the army and the people helping and leading each other. Thus, our party has demonstrated its invincible might, our socialist cause has been ever-victorious, and our revolution has been firmly defended and maintained.

Elucidating that the party and the People's Army are the fate and life of the people, dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il stressed that the traditional fine custom of the unity between the army and the people should be further displayed in the process of upholding the party's leadership.

Dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted: We should love and help the People's Army. We should never forget that, because soldiers have firmly safeguarded the fatherland's line of defence in the face of snowstorms and rains, we can accelerate socialist construction without worry and lead a happy life. Thus, we should cherish and love soldiers like our own sons and daughters, and help them sincerely.

The unity between the army and the people in the process of upholding the party's leadership is important in strengthening the might of our revolutionary ranks.

The party is the guide for carrying out the revolution, the army is defender of the party's cause, and the people are in charge of the revolution and construction.

To press ahead with and complete the revolutionary cause, we should strengthen by every means the unity between the army and the people in the process of upholding the party's leadership. And, we should highly display the fine custom of the unity between the army and the people.

The party's leading the army and the people and the army and the people upholding the party's leadership through their unity are a correct guarantee to resolutely safeguard the revolution.

The relations between the revolutionary army and the people entirely depend upon the greatness of the party. The greatness of the party and the noble spirit of the party's revolutionary cause are the source for creating the solid unity between the army and the people.

Today in our country, the army and the people have been firmly united as one in the process of upholding the party's leadership. This has been more firmly consolidated, as the revolution has been carried out.

Under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the traditional fine custom of the unity between the army and the people has been highly historically displayed since the era of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. And, today, the custom is more fully brought into bloom at a new high level by dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

While regarding our party's idea and intention as their faith, the army and the people think and act according to their demand. In addition, they are accelerating the chuche-oriented revolutionary cause in single-hearted unity.

By more fully bringing into bloom such a fine, proud custom, we should make the might of our revolutionary ranks invincible, and should effect a greater victory in the revolution and construction. The entire people and the soldiers of the People's Army should, above all, cherish deep in their mind the one desire and one enthusiasm to realize the cause of the party, and should uphold the leadership of the party with loyalty.

Because our great party exists, the People's Army, the people, and our socialist cause can exist. Our party is a great guide, which always leads our people and revolutionary armed forces into a victory. Thus, it is our party that wisely leads the consolidation and development of the People's Army; gives our people the most rewarding life and infinite happiness; and glorifies the chuche-oriented socialist system.

The people and the soldiers of the People's Army should more firmly cherish the faith to loyally uphold the leadership of our party center in socialist construction and in all military activities.

The faith of loyalty to the party becomes a principled core in ideological and spiritual traits of our people and our People's Army.

The people and the soldiers of the People's Army should firmly arm themselves with the great chuche idea. In addition, they should firmly arm themselves with our party's line and policy—the embodiment of the chuche idea—and should think and act according to the idea and intention of the party at any time and at any place.

The organizations and functionaries of the party should further deepen the indoctrination in the greatness of the party, in the wisdom of its leadership, and in the party's immortal achievements among our people and the soldiers of the People's Army. And, by strengthening the indoctrination in the principle of the chuche idea, in the party's policy, and in the revolutionary tradition, they should lead our people and the soldiers of the People's Army to uphold the party on the basis of firm faith and a sense of obligation and to devote all their wisdom and enthusiasm to brilliantly carry out the party's cause.

Unconditionally accepting the party's decisions and directions without any doubts and unhesitatingly flinging oneself into water and flames to carry them out are the traditional traits of our party and the soldiers of the People's Army.

By more highly demonstrating such unconditionality and absoluteness, all the soldiers of the People's Army and the working people should fill the whole country with the revolutionary ethos of brilliantly carrying out the party's intention and plan.

In addition, in the process of upholding the party's cause, the functionaries and the working people should treasure, love, and sincerely help the People's Army as their own brothers. The issue of sincerely loving and positively helping the People's Army is an important issue deciding success or failure in construction and military activities.

The people's positive support and love are the wellspring of invincible might for our People's Army. The People's Army is a genuine revolutionary armed force of the people, which is composed of sons and daughters to uphold the party's cause and defend the security, life, and assets of the country and the people. Thus, treasuring, loving, and helping the People's Army like their own brothers is the sacred duty of the entire people.

All party members and the working people should always treasure, love, and positively help the soldiers like their own sons and daughters according to the cause of the party.

The party organizations and functionaries at every level should regard the work of helping the People's Army as the important work of upholding the party and defending the revolution, and they should pay their deep attention to their work. In addition, they should properly carry out the work with the People's Army, thus leading it to more properly carry out the missions and duties.

In particular, the party's organizations and functionaries of the locals, in which a large number of units of the People's Army stay, should raise the work of helping the People's Army as an important political task. And, they should responsibly guarantee the things needed for military tasks and activities of the units of the People's Army, and should sincerely carry out the work of taking care of the lives of the soldiers like their own sons and daughters.

In addition, the soldiers of the People's Army should be united in one mind with the people in the process of upholding the party's cause. The blood ties between the revolutionary army with the people are an important yardstick measuring the political and ideological might of the army and its superiority.

Today, our soldiers of the People's Army and the working people are the party's revolutionary fighters, who fight for realizing our party's cause, even though their revolutionary duties and posts are different with each other. In addition, they are the revolutionary comrades sharing life and death in the process of upholding the party.

The soldiers of the People's Army should deeply keep in mind the respected leader's teaching that the guerrillas cannot live without the people just as fish cannot live without water, and should follow the noble example of members of the anti-Japanese guerrila units who always won victory by maintaining blood ties with the people. Thus, they should treasure, love, and actively help the people.

Today, our soldiers of the People's Army positively participate in socialist construction in hearty response to the party's call. This leads the army and the people to bring into full play their firm unity.

With a high sense of responsibility for defending the country and carrying out socialist construction, the soldiers of the People's Army should create a greater innovation and miracle in combat and political training and in socialist construction.

By inspiring mass heroism and collective innovation to constantly create a miracle in Tongil street construction in capital and major structures, including the Sariwon potassic fertilizer complex, the soldiers of the People's Army should help the people and positively contribute to realizing our party's cause.

The party's organizations at every level and the People's Army should focus the great party-based strength on bringing into full play the traditional unity between the army and the people, and should effect greater success in the work.

The party's organizations should get functionaries and the working people to cherish deep in their mind the party center's intention of bringing into full play the traditional unity between the army and the people. By so doing, functionaries and the working people should live and work according to the party's demand at any time and any place.

Along with this, by widely explaining, propagandizing, and positively generalizing the unity between the army and the people, which flourishes in the process of upholding the party's leadership, the party's organizations should fill the entire society with the fine custom of solidarity and cooperation between the army and the people.

Because of the single-hearted unity which causes the army and the people to help and lead each other and to unite as one around the party Central Committee led by the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song, the cause of our revolution will always be firmly defended and will advance victoriously.

Successes in Sectors of National Economy Viewed

SK2704152491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 27 (KCNA)—Signal successes are being registered in different branches of the national economy of Korea these days.

In April the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex has increased the daily output of pig iron, steel and rolled steel respectively by more than 20, 50 and 35 percent up on the daily average of the first quarter of the year.

The Sunchon Cement Complex has already produced 60,000 more tons of cement this month than in the previous month.

The chemical fertilizer producers under the Ministry of Chemical Industry have boosted their daily output by an average of 25 percent in April above the previous month.

A new speed is being created in major industrial construction projects including the construction of power, metal and chemical bases.

During the first four months of this year the builders of the Sariwon Potassic Fertilizer Complex increased the construction speed 4.4 times in terms of total assembling value, the assembling value of steel structures 8.5 times, the assembling of prefab parts 4.5 times and concrete tamping and bricklaying respectively 1.7 times as against the like period last year.

South Korea

Proposal for Joint Table Tennis Games Studied

SK2604072991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0627 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Chiba, Japan, April 26 (YONHAP)—South and North Korean table tennis officials are studying a proposal that they jointly host the Asia table tennis championships next year.

The executive committee of the Asia Table Tennis Union (ATTU) proposed that South and North Korea jointly host the 1992 championships, which were originally awarded to Bangladesh.

The Korean officials are currently in Chiba for the world table tennis championships.

An ATTU general meeting last December chose Dacca as the venue for the 11th championships, but the Bangladesh capital is having many difficulties with facilities and other things.

A South Korean said table tennis officials of both Koreas were seriously studying the proposal, but joint sponsorship of the Asian championships was unlikely because of the practical difficulty of splitting the competition between Seoul and Pyongyang.

North's Soccer Team Scheduled To Arrive 6 May

SK0105092191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0902 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 1 (YONHAP)—North Korea's youth soccer team is now due in Seoul on Monday [6 May], four days behind schedule, for a tryout with the South Korean squad to pick a united Korean entry in June's world youth soccer championship.

North Korea, despite earlier saying it was not sending the team, proposed in a liaison official's meeting Wednesday that the two sides revise the schedule and postpone it by four days and the South accepted.

North Korea said Tuesday it would not send players to Seoul as scheduled for Saturday, citing the tense atmosphere in Seoul following the killing of a student demonstrator by riot police last Friday.

They will arrive at the truce village of Panmunjom around 10 A.M. Monday. The tryout will be held at Olympic Stadium in Chamsil, eastern Seoul, on Wednesday. They will leave the following morning.

The South Koreans will leave Seoul for Pyongyang on May 10 for the second tryout at the May 1 Stadium in Pyongyang on May 12.

The inaugural ceremony for the single team was postponed to May 25 from May 21. The place will still be Sheraton Walker Hill Hotel in Seoul.

It will be the second time a North Korean soccer squad came to Seoul. North Korean players were here in October last year for the second inter-Korean friendship soccer match.

South and North Korea agreed in February to field a joint team to the world youth soccer championship in Portugal.

Envoys To Tour for UN Membership Support

SK0105075791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0724 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 1 (OANA-YONHAP)—Current and former South Korean prime and foreign ministers will join top diplomats on a tour of 36 nations to drum up support for South Korea's joining the United Nations side by side with North Korea in September.

Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha told a National Assembly committee Wednesday that former Prime Minister No Sin-yong left Tuesday to visit India, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Poland, all temporary members of the U.N. Security Council.

By the end of May, eight more presidential envoys will be on the road, pleading with 32 nations and the U.N. Security Council to support South Korea's application for U.N. membership:

—Kim Chang-hun, ambassador at the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security, goes to Cote d'Ivoire, Zaire, Senegal and Cameroon:
—former Foreign Minister Pak Tong-chin goes to Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Italy and Yugoslavia:
—incumbent Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok goes to Turkey, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore:
—former Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong goes to Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines:
—former Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su goes to Iran, Yemen, Libya and Pakistan:
—former Education Minister Chong Won-sik goes to Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, Zambia and Namibia:
—Ambassador-at-Large Han U-sok goes to Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Mauritania: and
—former Vice Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun goes to Argentina and Chile.

USSR Efforts on DPRK Nuclear Issue Viewed

OW0105140291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1344 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Hong Kong, May 1 KYODO—South Korean President No Tae- u says he is "satisfied" with efforts made by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to stop North Korea's nuclear development and is confident that China will not oppose his country's admission into the United Nations.

No made the remarks in an interview with the Hong Kong-based FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, conducted shortly after his April 22 meeting with Gorbachev on the South Korean island of Cheju. The interview will appear in the latest issue of the weekly magazine Thursday.

No was cautious, however, about North Korea's willingness to accept international obligations regarding its nuclear program, saying he "wouldn't rest assured until we had solid evidence that they are complying with international inspection."

No expressed confidence that China would not oppose South Korea's efforts to gain admission to the United Nations. He said that while China has not given any official signal of support, it has indicated informally that it will not exercise a veto.

No also said the two countries may soon establish diplomatic relations.

No said he does not see any fundamental changes in North Korea as long as Kim Il-song is alive but he added a "prelude to change is already occurring" in areas that the North could easily handle, such as sports.

The president said South Korea will strive to broaden areas of cooperation and exchange so that the North can be drawn to the outside world.

He cautioned against abrupt changes in the North which could create social and political instability.

"What we want is a sort of gradual change so that both South and North can develop together in peace and restore our common national identity," No said.

Yi Sang-ok Continues Visit to United States

Meets With Eagleburger

SK0105014791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0102 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Washington, April 30 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States agreed Tuesday to join with Japan in regular tripartite consultations to coordinate policies to meet the changing situation in Asia and the Pacific.

Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok and U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger also agreed in their meeting to hold working-level discussions on details of operation of the consultations, Chong Ui-yong, spokesman for the Korean Foreign Ministry, said.

In Tokyo last week, Yi agreed with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama that he would propose the three-way policy talks to the United States during his trip to Washington.

Korean diplomatic sources here said the U.S. response to the Japanese initiative was lukewarm at first, but that the rapid pace of improvement in Korea-Soviet ties prompted a positive reconsideration of the idea.

During a 130-minute meeting over lunch, Yi briefed Eagleburger on the April 20 summit between Korean President No Tae-u and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, particularly the "good neighborhood, partnership and cooperation treaty" proposed by Moscow.

Yi said his government would lay the groundwork for signing the treaty after full consultations with the United States and Japan. He was to meet with Secretary of State James Baker, but Eagleburger substituted after Baker's mother died.

Eagleburger affirmed that the United States supported general expansion of Seoul-Moscow ties and believed that such ties would contribute to regional security. He said he expected Seoul to pursue a treaty with Moscow based on its own judgment.

Korea had made the right decision to seek U.N. membership this year, Eagleburger said, promising U.S. support for the bid, according to Chong.

The Korean Government plans to complete application procedures by the end of August so the General Assembly can vote on Seoul's membership on its first day in session Sept. 17.

They reaffirmed that North Korea's signing of the nuclear safeguards accord of the International Atomic Energy Agency was vital for peace and security not only on the Korean Peninsula but in northeast Asia and around the world, and agreed to make joint efforts to that end.

The two officials also pledged to continue trying to expand bilateral security and military cooperation by establishing the Wartime Host Nation Support (WHNS) and Military Patent Secrecy Agreement (PSA).

Eagleburger expressed gratitude for Korea's decision to give 300,000 U.S. dollars in aid to the Kurdish refugees and asked for more support.

The talks were attended on the Korean side by, among others, Amb. Hyon Hong-chu, chief of the South Korean observer mission to the United Nations, and Pan Ki-mun, director-general for American Affairs at the Foreign Ministry.

U.S. State Department officials on hand included Reginald Bartholomew, undersecretary for security assistance, science and technology, Richard Solomon, assistant secretary for Asian and Pacific affairs, and John Bolton, assistant secretary for international organization affairs.

Meets With Cheney

SK0105074391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0703 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Washington, April 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok and U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney agreed Tuesday to work closely together to urge North Korea to sign a nuclear safeguards accord.

The U.S. military presence in South Korea was also discussed and Cheney said there would be no changes in the U.S. security commitment regardless of troop size and role adjustments, South Korean Foreign Ministry officials said.

They reaffirmed their support for concluding the Wartime Host Nation Support Agreement (WHNSA) this year. The WHNSA defines the sharing of logistics support by the two sides in case of war, the officials said.

Cheney expressed special concern about North Korea's nuclear reprocessing capability and said the same concern had been relayed to the Soviet Union. He suggested that South Korea and the United States cooperate in getting North Korea to sign the safeguards accord of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the officials said.

Seoul-Washington security relations are becoming the basis of bilateral ties, Yi told the secretary. Despite inter-Korean talks and government efforts to ease tension on the Korean Peninsula, a military threat remained, he was quoted as saying.

The minister said a continued U.S. troop presence is necessary against such threats.

Cheney, vowing that the U.S. security commitment in South Korea would not be weakened, said the Gulf war provided an opportunity for North Korea to carefully reevaluate its military capability, the officials said.

Yi met with Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger earlier in the day and the two agreed on tripartite consultations with Japan on Asian-Pacific issues.

He will brief U.S. President George Bush on Wednesday on the Seoul-Moscow summit April 20 and arrange for an early summit with Korean President No Tae-u, the officials said. Yi will also express appreciation for U.S. support for Seoul's bid to enter the United Nations and reiterate South Korea's intention to join the global body within the year.

South Korea hopes for an early No-Bush summit in light of changes in Northeast Asia since the Gulf war, Yi is expected to tell Bush.

The Korean Foreign Minister has scheduled meetings with Vice President Dan Quayle, House Speaker Thomas S. Foley and Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs Stephen Solarz later in the day and will deliver a speech on "Korea-U.S. Relations in a Changing World—Toward a Mature Partnership" at a seminar hosted by World Affairs Council and the Asia Society.

He will return to Seoul Thursday.

More Reaction to Death of Student Demonstrator

National Assembly Debates Death

SK0105031391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0215 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 1 (YONHAP)—Ruling and opposition parties debated the beating death of a college student by riot policemen in National Assembly committee meetings Tuesday.

Was it murder or accidental death? Should the national police chief, home affairs minister and all others involved be brought to trial for the tragic incident? Was an autopsy necessary? These were the major questions discussed in the committees.

Kang Kyong-tae, a Myongji University freshmen, died Friday after being beaten in the head and body with steel pipes by riot policemen.

Dissidents sighed in relief when the major opposition New Democratic Union (NDU) had a last-minute change of heart about cooperating in the ruling party's investigation.

Heeding critical voices within the party, the NDU said it would no longer settle for a ruling-opposition joint subcommittee investigation panel and now wanted a fully fledged investigation by the National Assembly.

The opposition camp gained a louder voice when a student set herself ablaze Monday to protest Kang's death. She is not expected to live.

Opposition members of the Judiciary-Legislation Committee said the combat policemen who delivered the fatal beating should be tried for murder. Five policemen have been arrested and charged with manslaughter.

Anyone could see that blows to the head and chest would kill a person, and group beating was an act of murder, the NDU committee members insisted.

The victim was unable to protest and there was no justification for such intense violence, so the policemen should be charged with murder, they said.

Rep. Yu Su-ho of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) brought up another point of controversy: whether an autopsy was necessary.

"An autopsy is necessary to determine whether it was murder or manslaughter," he said, advising against a hasty conclusion.

Justice Minister Yi Chong-nam said there is still room for question about what the charges against the combat policemen should be.

"The arrested policemen are insisting they were enraged when Kang resisted while being hauled away, and they did not strike him in the head with intention of killing him," Yi said.

"Medical experts differ even among themselves in concluding the cause of death, and an autopsy is necessary to find out exactly what happened."

Kang's family and radical student groups have refused to release the body for an autopsy despite pleas by the prosecution.

Members of the Home Affairs Committee were more interested in bringing the security authorities to court, namely former Home Affairs Minister An Ong-mo, and Yi Chong-kuk, head of the National Police headquarters.

NDU Rep. Kim Chung-cho held the government responsible for the suicide attempt of student Pak Song-hui, saying the tragedy was caused by public anger over Kang's death.

NDU Rep. Yi Yong-kwon demanded immediate disbandment of the combat troops. Conflict was unavoidable when young men were put in the troops and forced to confront other young men of similar age, he said.

Opposition Urges No's Apology

SK3004011091 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 30 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] Opposition parties yesterday reiterated their calls for President No Tae-u's apology for the death of an activist student but their actions seemed more subdued than before. They joined the ruling party in operating National Assembly standing committee sessions.

In a caucus of member lawmakers, the New Democratic Union [NDU] decided to present two resolutions to the Assembly—one condemning No for his alleged politicking through the use of intelligence agencies and the other recommending all Cabinet members to resign en masse.

The motions will be introduced to the Assembly today but will probably not be approved by the 299 seat legislature which is dominated by No's Democratic Liberal Party.

NDU president Kim Tae-chung, who proposed the motions and urged NDU Assemblymen to attend meetings of the standing committees, said that the largest opposition party would determine the future course of activities against the No administration, depending on the ruling camp's reactions to the two motions.

The NDP's position was decided in a weekly meeting of party executives earlier in the morning in which it planned to send senior vice president Yi U-chong to a nationwide rally protesting the Friday "murder" of a student by a group of plainclothes riot policemen wielding steel pipes in the heat of quelling student demonstrations.

A statement issued at the meeting called for No's apology and pledge to prevent recurrence of such tragic incidents, resignation of Prime Minister No Chae-pong and his Cabinet, criminal punishment of the former home minister and an end to suppression of opponents by law enforcement authorities.

Six NDU lawmakers met National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu, to criticize him for ignoring opposition extension of a plenary session by one day till yesterday to have more time to deal with the "murder" case.

The splinter opposition Democratic Party also put forward similar demands in a meeting of party executives chaired by senior vice president Yi Pu-yong. Yi Pu-yong and NDU's Yi U-chong, who are both renowned dissidents, have recently joined opposition parties.

Students Continue Demonstrations

SK0105010091 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 May 91 p 3

[Text] Thousands of students continued their antigovernment protest over the fatal beating of a Seoul college student at major universities across the nation for the second day yesterday.

Students and dissidents rallied at the campus of Yonsei University in western Seoul last night to denounce the death of Kang Kyong-tae at the hands of policemen and celebrate the eve of May Day, which falls today.

Early yesterday, students of major universities in Seoul and other cities staged separate protests to demand the disbandment of the "skeleton squad," responsible for killing the student activist and the neutrality of riot police.

Dissidents said they would push ahead with a rally to commemorate May Day at Yonsei University today as scheduled, though school authorities have decided to ban the gathering.

Chonnohyop, the nation's largest dissident labor organization, claims that about 100,000 workers from about 250 unions are expected to take the day off to celebrate the 102nd anniversary of May Day.

The government has repeatedly warned that it will get tough with any unionists who join the illegal work stoppage.

A few students were seriously injured as they fought running battles during this year's largest antigovernment protests which erupted in Seoul and other major cities Monday.

The protests were triggered by the fatal bludgeoning of Kang, a Myongji University economics freshman, who was caught by riot policemen during a protest in front of his campus.

In Kwangju, a 21-year-old coed of Chonnam National University was listed in serious condition after she attempted self-immolation during a protest in front of her campus.

Pak Sung-hui, a food and nutrition sophomore, sustained serious burns when she doused paint thinner over her body and set herself on fire during a rally denouncing the police killing of Kang Monday afternoon.

In Seoul, about 30,000 students and dissidents assembled for a rally in honor of the dead student activist at Yonsei University.

Following the rally, many of the ralliers staged sporadic violent street battles late into night.

Kim Su-chong, an Ewha Woman's University sophomore majoring in Chinese, received fractured bones in her arms and the hips as she fell into the underground parking lot of the university hospital while trying to escape a barrage of tear gas fired by riot police.

Pak Hyong-hui, a sophomore at the Kyunghee University Suwon campus, was hospitalized for injuries to one of his eyes which he sustained when hit by stones believed to be thrown by riot police during a protest in his campus.

Two students of Cheju National University also were injured as they fell from the rooftop of a school building while being chased by riot police.

Monday alone, about 90 riot policemen were injured during clashes with students, a police spokesman said. Meanwhile, prosecutors and dissident leaders of the committee formed to deal with Kang's death, narrowly agreed yesterday to conduct an external inspection of his body.

The body inspection will be conducted at Severance Hospital at 3 p.m. today.

They also agreed to conduct a formal autopsy on Kang's body if doctors who perform the inspection say an autopsy is necessary

No Tae-u on Plan To Improve Science, Technology

SK0105010691 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 May 91 p 3

[Text] President No Tae-u said yesterday that Korea will be able to catch up with the "G-7" countries in science and technology by the year 2000 if all the people of the country rally behind the national goal.

Speaking at a press meeting hosted by the Korean Science Journalist's Club yesterday at the Korea Press Center, No said that to achieve this technological renovation is a "historical mission imposed on all of us."

"Whether or not we attain the goal will decide the future of the nation," the President told the press meeting where most of Seoul's science journalists attended.

No said that his "G-7" include not only the Western Group-7 countries—the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Canada and Italy—but also the Soviet Union.

What Korea aims at attaining in 10 years is to keep the world's highest-level technology in some scientific fields and to be capable of keeping up our technological renovation without foreign aid," No said.

Given that in today's world, enormous changes can happen in a single day, No said that the 10-year period should not be seen as a short period.

No made this remark in reply to a reporter's question, "Will the country be able to attain the goal in such a short time span?"

The President also noted that Korea attained industrialization of its economy in just a generation while other advanced Western countries needed 200 to 300 years to do so.

"Let's recall the days 30 years ago when we could not do a thing without foreign aid. Who could imagine that 30 years later we could by ourselves make nearly everything from optical fiber cable and semiconductor to giant ships and sell them to the world?," No went on to say.

"To boost the country's technology to the highest level is to overcome the last barrier between us and our determined goal of joining the ranks of the world's advanced countries," No told the press session.

No said that if the country had more boldly invested in technological renovation and productivity improvements in the past when its economy was in better condition, it would have been closer to its goal of becoming an advanced country by this time.

Saying that "it is still not too late," No said the government will make its utmost effort to support technological renovation endeavors by enterprises and industries.

As part of this effort, the President said that the government will soon initiate a state pension for scientists who make outstanding contribution to the country's scientific and technological development.

The lifetime pension is to encourage scientists to devote their whole life to scientific research without worrying about their livelihood and to show social appreciation of their achievements.

In a supplementary explanation about the pension, Science and Technology Minister Kim Chin-hyon said that the pension will be given only to those who make a decisive contribution to the nation's effort to catch up with the G-7 countries in science and technology as well as to the human welfare.

To encourage enterprises' technological renovation, No said the government will give bold tax reductions or breaks and other support to the firms which make heavy investment in research and development.

Replying to a question about North Korea's refusal to allow the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to inspect its nuclear facilities, President No said that though Pyongyang now strongly rejects it, it will eventually bow to international pressure and open its atomic facilities to international surveillance.

The Korean government is intensifying its diplomatic effort to make North Korea carry out its obligation, as a signatory of the nonproliferation treaty, to allow international surveillance of its nuclear facilities, No said.

The President said that the Soviet Union has been putting pressure on North Korea to subscribe the safetyguard clause of the IAEA and will increase such a pressure.

Given the mounting international pressure, No said that North Korea will, in the not too distant future, agree to comply with the international regulation.

Kim Tae-chung's Party in 'Political Dilemma'

SK3004033691 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 30 Apr 91 p 2

[By staff reporter: Kim Chang-yong]

[Text] The beating to death of a student protester by riot policemen has dealt an unprecedentedly heavy blow to the No Tae-u administration, which has been boasting of democratic progress in the wake of Chon Tu-hwan's dictatorship, but it has placed Kim Tae-chung's opposition group in yet another political dilemma.

The incident is causing critical impact on both the ruling and principal opposition camps as it took place less than two months before elections for local councils at special cities and provinces, political observers said.

Kim Tae-chung merged the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD], which picked him as its presidential candidate in 1987, with a dissident force just three weeks ago and is now trying to refresh his image, carved deep by rivals as a hard-liner.

The merger was chiefly designed to counter an overwhelmingly strong ruling group, the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], born a year and two months before through a sudden compromise between President No Tae-u and two minor opposition leaders which has assured No of stable parliamentary backing.

Prompted by defeat by the DLP in small-district local council elections on Feb. 26, the first popular test since the April 26, 1988 parliamentary elections, the merger has been seen as a boon to Kim, who has long suffered from a "distorted" image and very low support outside his power bases limited to the Cholla area.

The NDU [New Democratic Union] has discarded yellow, which the PPD adopted as its official party color in the dire hope for re-enactment of the opposition triumph in the Philippines in 1987, and is now using light green for the flexible party character.

"Sinmindang," the Korean acronym for the New Democratic Union, is the same as the mainstream opposition array which had fought against the Pak Chong-hui and Chon regimes.

The NDU has stressed a "central-progressive" line under its platform.

Yet Kim has notably shifted his campaigning toward middle-class people and Seoul, in which his popularity is not as high, somewhat distancing himself from hard-line dissidents and the underprivileged, his longtime support groups.

Shortly after the merger with Yi U-chong's group, Kim toured water reservoirs in Seoul suburbs, aware of Seoul citizens' keen interest in the quality of tapped water, and the Taejon International Exposition Site.

He plans to tour middle and upper class apartment complexes and the stock market in Seoul on apparent purposes. [sentence as published]

NDU strategists say that Kim's support in his home province of Chollanam-to and nearby Chollapuk-to and Kwangju and in the low- income bracket will not change.

"The recent police brutality against a fleeing demonstrating student is a decisive chance for us to retrieve our status, dwarfed by the majority government party and its consistent propaganda of political development under the No leadership," one senior party official said.

"Yet we would feel embarrassed," he went on. "If our party president came to the street in protest against the "murder", and we will have to find a toehold in the middle class and areas other than Cholla provinces."

In a caucus of member lawmakers, NDU president Kim dissuaded them from rejecting Assembly standing committee sessions, called by the ruling party in defiance of the oppositionists.

Reps. Yi Chan-ku and Kim Tuk-su charged the NDU party leadership, who convened the caucus at the time when the Assembly was set to hold standing committee sessions, with lack of determination to press hard upon the ruling camp.

Kim, however, assuaged their arguments and ordered the NDU Assemblymen to attend the panel sessions and not to keep the legislature idle. He did not participate in a nationwide rally to protest the police "murder" nor assume the presidency of a party ad hoc committee examining it.

* Suso Scandal Brings Cabinet, Party Changes

912C0158A Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 19 Feb 91 p 2

[Article by reporter Kim Song-su: "Suso Real Estate Scandal Brings Cabinet, Party Leadership Changes"]

[Text] President No Tae-u replaced the deputy prime minister and economic planning board minister, the construction minister, the mayor of Seoul, and the presidential secretary for administrative affairs, on 18 February in relation to the Suso real estate scandal.

It appears that President No wants to close the lid on the Suso scandal by making a special announcement in the evening of 19 February of a reshuffle of the officials of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and the National Assembly.

A series of measures including a cabinet reshuffle, in response to the final disclosure of the prosecution's investigation, is interpreted as an effort to prevent at an early stage further escalation of the people's distrust of high-ranking government officials from reaching a crisis point and to quiet the scandal.

Prior to his reshuffle announcement, No met with DLP Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam in the morning of the 18th and defined the Suso case as "a corruption scandal that exposed the structural irregularities of our society, which involved politicians, businessmen, and government officials."

By so defining the scandal, No put the blame on all three sectors—political leaders, businessmen, and government workers.

Chongwadae [Presidential Office] Spokesman Yi Su-chong suggested today that the deputy prime minister is not directly involved in the Suso scandal by saying: "The replacement of the deputy prime minister is intended to restore economic vitality and replacement of the construction minister and the mayor of Seoul is directly related to the real estate scandal."

It is very questionable, however, to what extent reshuffling the cabinet and other government officials can pacify the people's anger and feeling of betrayal.

This is because government measures have been far from meeting the people's expectation and thus frustration still remains.

Concerning alleged government involvement in the scandal, the prosecution concluded that Chang Pyong-cho, a former presidential aide, was the only one involved.

Therefore, many high-ranking former and current government officials who were summoned, are free of guilt.

Furthermore, the prosecution concluded that even presidential aide Chang's wrongdoing cannot precisely be considered as power abuse.

In view of the above, it seems that the people will have a hard time accepting the cabinet change as anything more than a routine change undertaken "just because there was a scandal."

Whenever such incidents occurred in the past, reshuffles followed as a matter of course. Most of the people feel, however, that the results were always the same.

Ordinary people's common sense dictates that a reshuffling of cabinet members or senior party officials cannot prevent such incidents from reccurring. Without organizational changes and self-reflection on their conduct by senior administration members and political parties, bribery and corruption will continue.

Considering the ordinary people's viewpoints, the government officials and politicians should learn several lessons from the Suso scandal.

First of all, the principles of government administration should be strictly followed.

If those who are in a position to exercise or administer the law try to accomplish certain things by unprincipledly taking advantage of loopholes, the legal order will be confused.

If those who are in charge of national affairs are trying to interpret the law to their own benefit, disregarding principles, laws will become useless and society will become lawless.

Second, the Suso scandal revealed what moral and ethical standards the ordinary people expect from government officials.

Unlike the days of dictatorial oppression in the past, the people now will ruthlessly punish immoral and unethical conduct.

This is why the people are so vehemently angry and have turned their backs on the administration and political circles.

Such a righteous spirit of the people should be considered a source of power that can make our society healthy and just.

Third, in order to prevent future similar scandals resulting from conspiracies between business and political sectors, the government should seriously look into improving the means of fund-raising, for example, by making their sources public.

In conclusion, the government and the political circles should keep in mind that the settlement of the Suso scandal will be possible only when consistent improvements are made in government policies and purification of politics is positively undertaken.

* Hiring of Illegal Foreign Nationals Increases

912C0159A Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 7 Feb 91 p 21

[Article by reporter Chong Chong-hwa]

[Text] Lately, when you go to production centers in the capital area you can see a variety of foreigners from Pakistan, the Philippines, India, Bangladesh, and Nepal wearing workers uniforms. Small and medium-sized manufacturers have had a difficult time locating skilled technicians and they are, therefore, willing to hire illegal foreign nationals as employees. These companies prefer to hire illegal foreign national employees for two reasons: first, because the companies can pay them lower wages and second, because there are few labor disputes with foreign national employees. The total number of foreign national laborers has increased, and as a result, a number of special employment agency brokers have appeared. However, since the number of foreign national employees is rising, they are becoming familiar with the domestic situation and are forming mutual support groups.

According to the In Chun customer office, the 180 illegal foreign national employees exposed last year included 55 Pakistanis, 41 Filipinos, 12 Indians, and 11 Bangladeshis, among others. Most of them worked in unskilled occupations, such as parts assembly and sewing, in small scale manufacturing businesses in the capital area, Anyang, Shihung, Kwongmyong, Puchon, Whasung and Yongin.

Twelve illegal foreign national employees including 25-year-old Emily S. Soly, a Filipino, were exposed and expelled from the country. They entered the country on a 15 day short-term travel visa on 9 November of last year and were discovered working at H [expansion not given], an electric manufacturing company in Chungri, Ichun-up, Ichun-gun, Kyong-gi on the 17th of last month. They were originally provided employment outside of the Seoul area by a domestic employment broker, but they left in order to escape strict regulations. Most of their jobs involved welding and assembly and they were paid a salary of $400 per month.

During their employment they avoided the authorities and lived in groups at boarding houses. According to 38-year-old Mr. Pak, a representative of H [expansion not given], an electric company, the company had experienced difficulties filling orders on time because of a shortage of 30 employees on the production line, so the company was forced to hire illegal aliens through an employment broker who charged a 100,000 won per person commission. Mr. Pak added that the employees were desirable because they accepted low wages, were diligent, did not cause trouble, eagerly accepted overtime, and only required him to take them on group shopping trips once a month.

On the 22 November last year, a fiber manufacturer in Sungsu-Dong, Sungdong-gu, Seoul, hired two Pakistanis from Sungman City, Kyong-gi-do, who turned out to be nothing but trouble. According to Mr. Kim, a 42-year-old president of a fiber manufacturing firm, the Pakistanis worked for the company several months and then began to complain of mistreatment and poor pay. They eventually ran away. Mr. Pak believes that these individuals may have contacted an underground support movement.

In another case, on 8 December last year, 12 Pakistanis including Chu Ran Gilany, a 26-year-old, were discovered and deported. They entered the country in April last year on a three month travel visa and had been working as parts assemblers in So Rim Company, an electric parts manufacturer located in Shin-ri, Tean-up, Whasung-gun, Kyonggi-Do and received a monthly salary of 250,000 won.

Moreover, in October of last year two Sri Lankans including Rainasy, a 29-year-old, were fired from their positions at the U Chong Plastic Company in Ha Dae Won Dong, Chung Won Gu, Sung Nam City, Kyong-Gi-Do, due to the poor quality of their workmanship. After they were fired they obtained jobs at a construction site near Sung Nam City, where they were discovered by police.

Five Nepalese have been working in Kyan Yang Dong, Anyang City and five Sri Lankans have been secretly working for the past four months at D [expansion not given], an industrial company located in Ga Choa Dong, So Gu, Inchun.

These foreign nationals enter the country using a support system and once they find a job it is very difficult to keep track of them because they live together in groups and stay home most of the time. Even though some individuals have been exposed, this country does not have the facilities to take care of these people and, in some cases, they do not have enough money to pay for air fare home, so the government ends up handing these individuals back to their employers.

A Justice Department spokesman stated that "the number of foreign national employees increases every day, therefore, an article in an amendment of the Immigration Control Law that was established by the Justice Department to punish employers of illegal foreign nationals has been strengthened." He further emphasized that an increase in the hiring of illegal foreign nationals could turn out to be a social problem because it will eventually become more difficult to train domestic skilled technicians.

Burma

Order Bans Civil Servants' Joining in Politics

BK3004142991 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] has issued Order No. 1/91 today, 30 April 1991. The text of the order reads as follows:

Order compelling conduct of public service personnel to be clear of party politics:

1. Since assuming the responsibilities of the state and in accordance with the wishes of the people, the SLORC has been undertaking the restructuring of the nation's political system. In doing so, the SLORC has been laying down the foundation for the transformation of the political system from a one party system to a multiparty one by abolishing laws that protect the one-party system while promulgating other necessary laws.

2. Even before the SLORC had assumed the responsibilities, the former State Council had issued Notification No. 14/88, dated 16 September 1988, which stated that in accordance with the practice of a multiparty system, public service personnel must be loyal to the country and serve the people and must not be a member of any political party.

3. Under the existing labor bylaws concerning the conduct of public service personnel, the following rules are already in force:

a. public service personnel must not engage in any party politics. They must not provide financial assistance or support by other means to any political party.

b. They must not be a member of any political organization.

c. They must prohibit their dependents or persons under their guardianship from taking direct or indirect part in activities that are aimed at opposing the government.

d. They must not be party to any labor association, organization, union, and other like bodies not formed in accordance with the rules occasionally announced and prescribed by the government.

4. This being the case, all members of the Defense Services—the People's Defense Forces and the People's Police Force—public service personnel from departments and state economic enterprises, and people who earn salaries from the state treasury must be completely free from party politics as stated in Paragraph 3.

Effective legal action will be taken against public service personnel who violate the stipulations of this order.

5. This order shall have the effect of law.

By the authority vested in me,

Signed: Khin Nyunt, major general, secretary-1, State Law and Order Restoration Council.

Status of 'Parallel Government' Members Annulled

BK3004151391 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] The Multiparty Democratic General Elections Commission of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] has issued Announcement No. 921 on 30 April 1991. The text of the announcement reads:

Subject: Announcement regarding people who, after being elected as People's Assembly Representatives, no longer have the right to continue as People's Assembly Representatives for infringing the stipulations of Subsection G, Section 11 of the Elections Law.

1. The following persons were elected as People's Assembly representatives from the constituencies that follow their names in the multiparty democratic general elections held on 27 May 1990: 1) U Hla Oo, Kyauktaga Constituency-1, and 2) U Myint Maung, Einme Constituency-2.

2. The judicial court concerned has ruled that there is substantial evidence to deduce that the persons mentioned above have joined a parallel government and have made contacts and are cooperating with insurgent organizations or members of such organizations that are engaged in an armed struggle against the state, with the aim of rebelling against the state.

3. This being the case, persons mentioned in Paragraph 1 are in infringement of Subsection G of Section 11 of the Elections Law and can no longer continue as elected People's Assembly representatives. Their status as elected People's Assembly representatives has therefore been annulled.

By the authority vested in me,

Signed: Aye Maung, secretary.

Saw Maung: SLORC To Work for Power Transfer

BK0105091791 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Senior General Saw Maung, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], has sent a message on Labor Day, 1 May 1991. The message reads:

Esteemed workers: Labor Day is being celebrated on 1 May 1991 in honor of both blue- and white-collar workers in the Union of Myanmar [Burma]. Allow me to extend my cordial greetings and this message of felicitations to the working masses on this auspicious occasion.

Blue- and white-collar workers in the Union of Myanmar are contributors of labor fulfilling the food, clothing, shelter and social needs of all who reside in our country. Hence, they play a vital role in the tasks to develop the state. The life of the workers, whose only possessions are their mental and physical strength and goodwill and who contribute their labor to fulfilling society's needs, is indeed noble. As the old adage goes: They are making merit while making a living. Blue- and white-collar workers should possess a sense of awareness to keep their pure and noble life from becoming tarnished.

Refusing to exploit one's capabilities, shirking work, infringing work site rules, wasting raw as well as finished goods, ruining tools and production machines through negligence, taking and offering bribes, arrogance in dealing with people, accepting assignments from political parties, spreading rumors among public service personnel, conducting whispering campaigns, and so forth are the causes that tarnish the noble life of workers.

This being the case, all workers, including public service personnel, should show goodwill and have a clear outlook toward our current efforts in national politics, since we are doing our duty in our given roles in the interests of all people. The workers should work definitively, correctly, and quickly in their given duties so that there will be complete success.

The truth is, our Myanmar nation is rich in resources in all aspects and has a good and moderate climate. If all the citizens are fair in weighing self-interests against majority interests and are diligent and persevering, the nation will quickly become prosperous and rich.

Today, constructive tasks both in the economic and the social sectors are being undertaken with zeal and momentum under SLORC leadership. It has become essential for blue- as well as white- collar workers to work diligently and with perseverance.

In this period, while the SLORC is in charge of sovereign power, one can clearly witness the renovation and construction projects being undertaken all over the country. The reason SLORC has been spending millions to build roads, parks, schools, hospitals, dispensaries, pagodas, and monasteries is to build from the foundations upwards a pleasant life of development for workers, peasants, and all other people. I call on the workers to join hands with all other people in safeguarding the fruits of this labor. Particularly at this time, when priority is being given to the development of border areas where our brethren of different nationalities reside, it is vital that people whose lives are more developed compared with those at the border regions should give priority to help, and join in the collective efforts to develop those regions.

In accordance with Declaration No. 1/90 that has publicly been announced, SLORC will work toward the convening of a national convention once essential fundamental preparations have been made and will proceed with the drafting and implementation of a state constitution. Once a strong state constitution is established, the transfer of the sovereign power will be undertaken systematically. Since these programs are vital to the nation, it is essential that the workers take an active and enthusiastic part in the different phases of implementation.

While maintaining the good traditions that they have had in the struggle against imperialism and fascism for national liberation, blue- and white-collar workers of Myanmar should hold aloft the genuine national political objectives laid down by SLORC—to prevent the disintegration of the Union, the disintegration of national unity, and perpetuate the sovereignty—and, as defenders and builders of the nation, to join hands and unite with the Defense Services in striving to achieve those objectives without fail.

Minister Returns From Pacific Regional Meeting

BK3004151991 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Lieutenant General Tin Tun, member of State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and minister for transport, communications, social welfare and labor, arrived back in Yangon [Rangoon] this evening in a Myanmar [Burma] Airways plane after attending the Asia and Pacific Region Labor Ministers Conference held in Beijing from 23 to 26 April.

Minister Lt. Gen. Tin Tun and his delegation were welcomed at Yangon airport by deputy chairman of SLORC, General Than Shwe; and members Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin, minister for energy and mines; Major General Myo Nyunt, chairman of Rangoon division law and order restoration council; and Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning, finance, and trade; Major General Thein Win, chief of staff of the Air Force and senior military officers; PRC Ambassador Mr. Cheng Ruisheng and embassy personnel, and departmental officials from the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the Ministry of Social Welfare, and the Ministry of Labor.

Lieutenant Colonel Khin Myint, official on special duty, and Captain Thein Win, personal aide of the minister, also returned.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

'Strong Defence' Ties With Australia Continue

BK0105065291 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0615 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 1 (BERNAMA)—Malaysia and Australia feel that they should continue the existing strong defence relations, Defence Minister Najib Razak said here.

However, he said, Canberra has to make an official stand on the overall bilateral relations in the light of the strained ties between the two countries now.

"For the moment we acknowledge that the continuation of strong military ties under the the Five Power Defence

Arrangement (FPDA) should continue because it has afforded Malaysia and Singapore the important security umbrella," he said.

He told newsmen this after receiving his New Zealand counterpart, Warren Cooper, Tuesday.

Earlier, Najib had a four-eyed [as received] meeting with the Australian defence minister, Robert Ray, at the same venue.

Senator Ray, who was here for the FPDA defence ministers' meeting, left for home Tuesday and was not available for comment.

According to Najib, Ray had in the hour-long meeting conveyed the official Australian Government position that defence ties with Malaysia would be maintained.

Both he and Senator Ray agreed that overall bilateral relations should be discussed further and resolved at the highest level, said Najib.

Senator Ray is the first high ranking Australian official to be here to discuss the strained relations which were said to have started last October.

He is expected to report to Canberra on his findings on the issue.

Earlier reports said Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and his Australian counterpart Bob Hawke were expected to discuss the problem in London in June while attending a meeting of the high-level appraisal group on the Commonwealth.

Najib said defence relations were important for Malaysia and Australia because it was a "win-win" situation for the strategic interests of both countries.

"We look forward to sending a clear-cut message that whatever happens on the bilateral front, [words indistinct]," he added.

The other members of the 20-year-old FPDA are Britain, Singapore, and New Zealand. During the meeting, Najib indicated to his Australian counterpart the activities and developments that had led to the "cooling off and the difficulties" in the Malaysia-Australia relations.

He also indicated the possible actions which Australia could take to "ameliorate the situation."

"I think it is incumbent upon the Australian side now that they know and pave a clear perception of what the real problem is to respond in a positive way," said Najib.

He felt that the Australian prime minister had to indicate in "a very positive manner" that Australia wanted good ties with Malaysia.

Najib said he and Senator Ray did not specifically discuss a recent statement by Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans that defence ties with Malaysia should be cut.

According to Najib, Senetor Ray explained that the official position of the Australian Government was that "strong defence relations must continue" despite [words indistinct].

Japan's Steps To Strengthen Relations Lauded

BK3004144491 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 29 Apr 91 p 10

[Editorial: "An Eastern Visit and Voice"]

[Text] Reciprocated gestures of respect were on the menu on Saturday when visiting Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and his Malaysian counterpart Prime Minster Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed met face-to-face, bow-to-bow and hand-to-hand for the first time, for heart-to-heart discussions. Malaysia's Prime Minister toasted Japan's ongoing steps and strides to strengthen relations with its Southeast Asian neighbours as part of the Fukuda Doctrine.

And Mr Kaifu thanked the Malaysian Government for allowing the first Japanese flotilla, since World War II, to call at Penang before making its way to help sweep mines from the waters of the Middle East. He added that his country had no intention of "pumping military iron" or to regain military might in the region in its awareness of the unhappiness caused during Japanese occupation of Malaya during World War II.

Dr Mahathir, who a decade ago, via his lateral-thinking "Look East" policy, discarded Malaysians' typically colonial slant to the West, waved fond farewell to the Iron Lady and riveted the nation's eyes on Japan as a fine example of a healthy, wealthy and wise country of the East. Socioeconomically speaking, our Prime Minister has long nurtured a personal vision of Malaysians emulating the multifaceted achievements of the Land of the Rising Sun, amongst others.

It is not surprising that the same man has lately advanced the notion of an East Asia Economic Group (EAEG), which was the piece de resistance of the talks between the Prime Ministers on Saturday. Dr Mahathir explained that EAEG would not be a trading-bloc platform from which the doors to the markets of East Asia would be slammed shut. Instead, the EAEG would provide a platform for participating countries which would enable their individual voices to be amplified collectively as one in trade and economic matters.

The participation of Japan as a neighbouring developed country and one which holds the region's largest purse strings would be necessary to anchor such a platform. The EAEG proposal is born from a natural reaction for individuals or lonely voices to form a regional economic group in a world where trade blocs are springing up faster than skyscrapers in Manhattan and weeds in rich, dark soil. Would a trade giant such as the European Community listen to a gnat? Whether a gnat would be heard in the first place, is the issue.

There are many cords connecting our country to Japan which speak amply and comfortably for cementing relations between both nations. Good neighbours are the building blocks to a convivial and genial neighbourhood. In January last year, Dr Mahathir welcomed a suggestion for a medical link-up with Japan to raise health care and standards in the Asia-Pacific region. Cultural exchanges have blossomed. A factor helping to promote understanding between both nations would be the Asian qualities they have in common, a certain gracefulness of charm and manner, highlighted by natural modesty and halusness [as published] (refinement).

Yes, indeed Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu! We are delighted that you have no objections to the basic concept of EAEG and hope that when the details of the group have been finalised, it will be another stout cord joining both our countries, a further conduit of communication and mutual benefit.

Third World Nations Want To Join Group of 15

BK0105080891 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0617 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 1 (OANA-BERNAMA)—A number of Third World countries have knocked on the G-15 [Group of 15] door for membership while there is a growing consciousness of the need for more economic cooperation among member countries, a Malaysian Foreign Ministry official said here.

Ahmad Kamil Jaafar, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, said since G-15 was inaugurated in the Malaysian capital last June, a number of Third World countries had sounded out the grouping for membership.

"But, our preliminary stand is that it should be small ... if it gets bigger, it would be unwieldy and unmanageable, losing its effectiveness and cohesivessness," he told a press conference Tuesday at the end of the first day of the two-day meeting of the group's steering committee.

Known as the troika, the committee, comprising the foreign ministers of Venezuela, Senegal, and Malaysia, was set up by the G-15 summit to coordinate the work of the group until the next summit and to decide on the size and location of a small group of permanent staff to assist the committee.

Other members of the group, set up to promote greater economic cooperation among developing countries, are Yugoslavia, Egypt, Algeria, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Peru, and Jamaica.

Tuesday's troika meeting, the 4th, was attended by Foreign Ministers Abdullah Ahmad Badawi of Malaysia, Dr. Armando Duran of Venezuela, and Djibo Laity Ka of Senegal.

Ahmad Kamil said since the (?inaugural) summit, there was now a common effort by the G-15 members to meet for important international conferences to harmonise their common stand.

"This is a healthy development," he said, adding that there was a growing consciousness among them to work together, with the G-77 [Group of 77 developing countries] behind them. The G-15 is to be a catalyst for more trade and economic cooperation between developing countries grouped under G-77, also reffered to as the South.

Ahmad Kamil said three projects approved by the first summit were progressing well.

Two of the projects nearing completion were the mechanism for promoting bilateral trade among developing nations and the setting up of a South Investment Trade and Technology Data Exchange Centre (SITTDEC).

He added that the third project, a business and investment forum to promote South-South private sector cooperation, being handled by Yugoslavia, was behind schedule because of the Gulf war and Yugoslavia's internal problems.

Ahmad Kamil said a decision on SITTDEC, which Malaysia is bidding to host, was deferred at Tuesday's meeting to the 2nd G-15 summit, scheduled to be held in Caracas, Venezuela, from June 26 to 28.

The steering committee Tuesday also decided to make a four-point recommendation for their heads of government to decide at the Caracas summit. They are:

"The steering committee shall continue to supervise and exercise control over the implementation of all decisions and activities of the G-15 summit;

"The composition of the steering committee shall consist of the foreign ministers of member countries, each from the immediate past, present, and future hosts of summits;

"Between meetings of the steering committee, their permanent representatives to the United Nations offices in Geneva shall be constituted as a board of supervisors of the technical support facility (TSF), and

"The TSF (set up by the 3rd troika meeting in Geneva last November to put into effect the decision of the summit) would continue to be located in Geneva and their UN permanent representatives were to make the necessary arrangement with the Swiss Government."

The three foreign ministers also decided that the 5th troika meeting would be held in Caracas on June 24, two days before the summit.

Kelantan Passes Bill To Stop Party Defection

BK2504140391 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1330 GMT 25 Apr 91

[Text] Kelantan has amended its Constitution to stop politicians from crossing over from one party to another. It empowers the State Legislative Assembly to expell any members doing this and declares his seat vacant.

Under the amendment, the Kelantan State Assembly will become the sole authority in deciding when and if a seat falls vacant. The Assembly's decision will be final and may not be challenged by any court. The State Assembly approved the new amendment by 36 votes to two. The two who opposed the bill were the member for Limbungan, Haji Wan Mohamed Najib Wan Mohamed, and the member for Sungei Pinang, Mr. Nording Salleh.

The amendment was passed at 2:45 this afternoon after two and a half-hour debate. The bill becomes effective retroactively from 8th of November 1990. This means that Haji Wan Mohmed Najib and Mr. Nording Salleh are no longer members of the State Assembly. By-elections must be held for the two constituencies.

Wisdom of Amendments Questioned

BK2904113991 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Apr 91 p 8

[Editorial: "Ruling by Legislative Fiat"]

[Text] The PAS [Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party] Government in Kelantan has just shown how easy it is to change the law with its commanding majority in the State Legislative Assembly. On Thursday, the State legislature forged and rubber-stamped a couple of amendments to the State Constitution, the political wisdom or relevance of which can be very well questioned. Moreover, whether such willful tinkering with the Constitution is democratic in practice is also highly questionable. The first amendment forces a State Assemblyman to lose his seat which will be declared vacant the moment he quits his party (thus depriving him of the freedom of choice in a democratic policy) or if he is sacked (for whatever reason) by it. This new ruling has been made retrospective to Nov 18 last year—the very day that PAS formed the State Government.

As a matter of aggravation, the second amendment imposes a five-year moratorium to prevent an elected member who has resigned as a State Assemblyman from taking part in fresh elections in the State. Whatever its rationale, it must be contradictory to the basic principle of individual volition and the participatory spirit of the truly democratic tradition.

Evidently, the PAS Government has taken a leaf out of the rather controversial book of its counterpart in Sabah. It may be recalled that the PBS [Parti Bersatu Sabah] Government in Sabah had gone through a political crisis following its emergence as the ruling party after having won with a simple majority in the fifth Sabah State election held on 22 April 1985. In October that year, four State Assemblymen resigned, including two from the PBS. Shortly after its triumph in the March 1986 election, the PBS Government amended the State Constitution (its third attempt to amend the State Constitution within a 12-month period) to take away the seat of an elected legislator who has resigned or has been expelled from his party or has ceased to be a member of the party on which electoral platform he has sought and won his popular mandate.

One of the immediate questions that comes to mind is whether a popularly elected representative must be held responsible to the electorate (representing "rice-roots" democracy) or to the ruling party which is in a position to exercise legislative fiat at will because of its majority in the legislature. What is crystal clear is that a democratically elected party must respect the wishes of the electorate. Of course, with a two-thirds majority, any party is in the highly enviable (if also eminently responsible) position of amending the law. Of course, democracy could be eroded if a ruling party (especially one with a siege mentality) is bent on preserving its majority and clinging on to power whatever the consequenes.

It is clear as daylight that the legislative amendment to prevent political hopping or party-switching is not a very democratic move by any measure. Moreover, it should be noted that political commitment and loyalty cannot simply be legislated. That is not the law of human nature.

There might not be an organic link between the PAS and the PBS but they certainly learn from each other on the ways and means of holding on to power even though such self-preservation means going back on their words. How democratic could it be to amend the law and to make it retrogressive,just to serve one's ends?

Singapore

Prime Minister Hosts Dinner for FPDA Ministers

BK2704145891 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Singapore welcomes any additional economic or security regional arrangement which would enhance the stability and resilience of Southeast Asia. It would also support the continued presence of "friendly extra-regional powers" like the United States.

The prime minister made the call at a dinner for defense ministers of the Five Power Defense Arrangement [FPDA] this evening. Mr. Goh Chok Tong said the FPDA shows that the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand are committed politically to to the region. Their commitment, plus the willingness of Malaysia and Singapore to assist one another will force any potential aggressor to ponder carefully because he would face a combined response. Mr. Goh said the FPDA has provided the stable and secure environment for Singapore and Malaysia to among other things, pursue economic development.

Mr. Goh, who is also the defense minister, says he was happy to note that while there have been changes in defense ministers, each country's commitment to Britain has not wilted. He said although the political, and security circumstances in the region have changed since 1971, yet FPDA remained relevant. By putting out threats to the security of Malaysia and Singapore, the FPDA also enhances ASEAN's stability.

Cambodia

Temporary Cease-Fire Begins 1 May

BK0105085691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0814 GMT 1 May 91

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh, May 1 (AFP)—Cambodia's warring parties laid down their arms Wednesday for the first time in 12 years of fighting as a temporary cease-fire came into effect.

The cease-fire coincided with the May Day holiday, and all government offices and foreign embassies were closed.

The government here has expressed guarded optimism about the chances of the unsupervised temporary cease-fire lasting for any length of time.

Kek Galabru, daughter of a minister and head of Phnom Penh's information office in Paris, said: "A ceasefire is the first step, the second step is that they will make a permanent ceasefire."

With offices closed, there were no immediate reports from the battlefront on how the truce was holding up but one Cambodian official said, "I'm sure that along the border it will be quiet... but inside the country they cannot avoid skirmishes."

Information from military units usually takes two or three days to reach Phnom Penh but can be quicker in urgent cases as field units have shortwave radios, a source said.

Several officials have said they fear the China-backed Khmer Rouge will violate the truce despite agreeing to honour the cease- fire along with its two non-communist partners and the Phnom Penh government. [passage omitted]

Rebels Say Phnom Penh Breaks Cease-Fire

BK0105124691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1229 GMT 1 May 91

[Excerpts] Bangkok, May 1 (AFP)—Guerrillas backing former Cambodian monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk claimed Wednesday that Phnom Penh had broken the voluntary cease-fire and launched two large-scale attacks against them.

The Sihanouk supporters, in a statement released here, said more than 300 Phnom Penh troops supported by six T54 tanks began the attacks in the Siem Reap area only hours after the Tuesday midnight truce, agreed by Cambodia's four warring factions, came into force.

The prince's Bangkok office said the fighting lasted at least nine hours but gave no casualty figures.

The claims came shortly before the three leaders of the guerrilla movements were to meet Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu here on an official visit.

Khieu Samphan, nominal leader of the Khmer Rouge, said before meeting the premier that he wanted the cease-fire to hold.

"We wish peace for our country," he said.

Despite the claims made by the Sihanouk forces, independent sources said the truce generally seemed to be holding.

"There have been some minor skirmishes but so far the cease-fire seems to be holding. It will be several days before the full picture will really be known," said one Western diplomat in Bangkok.

Phnom Penh troops and guerrillas belonging to the Khmer Rouge and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), one of its non-communist allies, were reported to have exchanged fire in the border area of northwestern Cambodia. [passage omitted]

Officials from Thailand and the Phnom Penh Government signed an agreement Wednesday to open a crossing point at the border next month.

The crossing point is to be opened on June 15 between Aranyaprathet, on the Thai side, and Poipet in Cambodia, 250 kilometers (150 miles) southeast of here.

Ranariddh Tells Army To Remain on Guard

BK0105071691 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Prince Norodom Ranariddh, personal representative of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk in Cambodia and Asia, secretary general of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia, and supreme commander and commander in chief of the National Army of Independent Cambodia [NAIC], told all the commanders of the NAIC to be on guard during the period of a cease- fire which will be implemented from 1 May, saying the stance of the NAIC was to struggle for a peaceful Cambodia within the framework of an inflexible independence. The prince made the remarks in an interview with the Voice of the Khmer Radio's correspondent.

Prince Ranariddh said the NAIC was the first party, which had announced its support for the cease-fire call jointly issued by the Paris conference cochairmen and the UN secretary general. Moreover, he emphasized that with its support for the call:

1. The NAIC wanted to show the international and national communities that the NAIC did not conduct struggle for the sake of war, but because it was duty-bound to carry on the struggle and to make sacrifices for Cambodia's national independence, freedom, and liberal democracy.

2. The NAIC wanted to create the delightful climate, that was to bolster feasibility of resolving uncompromising

points concerning the peace plan of the Big Five raised by the Vietnamese-installed regime.

The prince called on all the NAIC commanders to stay alert at all times and to retaliate against enemy troops who impinge upon the cease-fire accord, stressing that all the commanders should wait for the direct order from the NAIC Supreme Command.

Political Bureau Issues Communique on Session

BK0105051691 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 1 May 91

[Communique issued by the Political Bureau of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee—read by announcer]

[Text] On 30 April 1991, the Political Bureau of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee held a plenary session under the chairmanship of Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin to hear the report and the assessment on the outcome of the discussion between Comrade Hun Sen, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the State of Cambodia Council of Ministers, with top leaders of the National Peacekeeping Assembly and Royal Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on 27 and 28 April on his way back from a trip for a medical checkup in Japan.

The Political Bureau highly valued and thanked the Japanese leaders for their humanitarian gesture in providing Cambodian people with humanitarian aid and highly evaluated the discussion between Comrade Hun Sen and the Japanese leaders and Japan's goodwill in contribution to promoting the process for peace in Cambodia.

Comrade Hun Sen informed the Political Bureau of the joyous and intimate atmosphere created by the Thai leaders and their affirmation on their unchanging policy toward the Cambodian problem, particularly their emphasis that the change of their government does not mean the change of their policy concerning the Cambodian issue.

The Political Bureau took note of the Thai leaders' emphasis on their desire for genuine peace to prevail in their neighboring countries, particularly in Cambodia, and the Royal Thai Government's support for the appeal for a cease-fire in Cambodia made by the Paris conference cochairmen and the UN secretary general.

The Political Bureau highly evaluated the firm assurance by the Thai leaders that no stance should be imposed on the Cambodian side, and the Royal Thai Government's respect for any agreement to be reached by the Cambodian factions.

The Political Bureau welcomed Thailand's contribution to the negotiation for peace in Cambodia in the sense emphasized above.

Comrade Hun Sen also informed the Political Bureau on other points related to the consolidation and expansion of the bilateral relations between the two peoples of Cambodia and Thailand.

The Political Bureau evaluated discussion as a valuable new step in the peace process for advancement toward achieving an overall political solution to the Cambodian problem.

Politburo Member Sim Ka Addresses 1 May Rally

BK0105053691 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] On the morning of 1 May at the festival hall in Phnom Penh, a meeting was solemnly held to mark the 105th anniversary of the 1 May International Labor Day.

Among those taking part in the meeting were Comrade Sim Ka, alternate member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Phnom Penh municipal party committee; Comrade Say Siphon, alternate member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions; Comrade Major General Sin Sen, alternate member of the party Central Committee and deputy interior minister.

Also present were leading cadres from central ministries and services; representatives of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces; cadres, personnel, and workers from various central units; representatives of outstanding workers; and a multitude of people and other ethnic groups. The charge d'affaires of various friendly embassies accredited to Cambodia were also present.

Speaking on the occasion, Comrade Sim Ka talked about the significance of 1 May, the day workers the world over demanded their rights and freedom and determined their 8-hour workday, 8-hour study, and 8-hour holiday. The comrade went on to say that the 12- year rebirth of the Cambodian people is the result of the common efforts of the entire party, Armed Forces, and mass of workers who have done their best to fight on as successors to carry on the tradition to struggle for the cause of our Cambodian motherland's rebirth.

Comrade Sim Ka also welcomed the appeal by the cochairmen of the Paris conference and the UN Secretary General on implementing a voluntary cease-fire in Cambodia and the continued unreserved support of the Cambodian working class and masses of workers for the goodwill and just stance of the State of Cambodia's Government in the search for a solution to bring genuine peace to the Cambodian people. The comrade called on the meeting to pledge to hold aloft the banner of great national union, heighten the spirit of independence, mastery, and self-reliance to ensure the successful implementation of tasks assigned by the party and state.

Deputy Planning Minister Dies in Ho Chi Minh City

BK0105115391 Hong Kong AFP in English 1129 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 1 (AFP)—Cambodian Deputy Planning Minister Keo Samut died at the weekend in Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City, his niece said here Wednesday.

Mr. Keo died early Sunday of problems related to infection of the liver, Kek Galabru said.

Several ministers were expected to attend his funeral, due to take place on Thursday.

Mr. Keo was a teacher before the upheaval caused by the 1975-79 rule of the Marxist Khmer Rouge.

He had held his important Planning Ministry post since 1979 and last year travelled to Europe.

Hun Sen Thanks SRV's Do Muoi for Greetings

BK0105052891 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, sent a mesage of thanks to Comrade Do Muoi, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers. The message says in essence:

I would like to express sincere and warmest thanks to you for sending best wishes on my 40th birthday. I am convinced that the relations of solidarity and close friendship and cooperation between our two countries, Cambodia and Vietnam, will be further strengthened and fruitfully expanded.

May you enjoy good health and new and greater successes in carrying out your noble tasks.

568 Enemy Soldiers Killed in 1990-91 Dry Season

BK3004155091 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] With courage and bravery in persistently attacking the enemies to defend the people's lives, cadres and combatants of our Armed Forces from all units carried out a total of 415 counterattacks against the enemy troops during the 1990-91 dry season. We killed 568 enemy soldiers—including 251 field commanders, two division commanders, three regiment commanders, and 13 battalion commanders—captured 47, and wounded many others. We seized 558 assorted firearms, including 49 heavy guns, 370 metric tons of diverse ammunition, nine vehicles, one tank, 10 field radios, 12 metric tons of rice, and some war materiel and documents. We also destroyed two enemy tanks, four vehicles, 15 metric tons of ammunition and mines, 2,000 liters of fuel, 25 depots, over 2,000 houses and hideouts, and a great deal of war materiel.

Commentary Questions Heng Samrin's Peace Call

BK0105043291 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Political commentary: "What Kind of Peace Does Mr. Heng Samrin Want?"]

[Text] Recently, after the two cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar appealed for a cease-fire in Cambodia, Heng Samrin, leader of the communist regime installed by Vietnam, also appealed for peace in Cambodia.

It is very correct to want peace for Cambodia. But we would like to know what kind of a peace Mr. Heng Samrin wants. Is the peace that Mr. Heng Samrin wants similar to or different from the one that the Cambodian people in general and the international community want? If the peace that Mr. Heng Samrin wants is similar to the one that all Cambodian people and the world want, it will certainly prevail within the very near future. But if this peace is different from the one that the Cambodian people and the world want, Cambodia will certainly not achieve peace that soon.

The peace that the Cambodians want comes within the framework of 100-percent national independence. If Mr. Heng Samrin's peace is the one without independence and is kept in the cage of Vietnam's Indochinese Federation, these two kinds of peace cannot blend together.

We will not guess what kind of a peace Mr. Heng Samrin uttered recently because the real answer to it will certainly be known soon. However, we would like to inform Mr. Heng Samrin that peace without national independence is unacceptable. The Cambodian patriots and countries which cherish peace and justice throughout the world will absolutely not accept peace that puts Cambodia under the subjugation of the Vietnamese aggressors and opens the way for them to annex Cambodian territory. That kind of peace is very unfair to the Cambodian people.

The Cambodian patriots will fight on and all peace- and justice- loving countries throughout the world will continue this struggle until Cambodia achieves the kind of peace that the Cambodian people and the world community want, that is, peace within the framework of national independence—peace which is free from Vietnamese subjugation.

This is a clarification that we think will be useful if Mr. Heng Samrin wants peace that has the Vietnamese as the boss, which is totally different from the one that the Cambodian people and world community want.

Indonesia

Malaysia To Repatriate 112 Seeking Refugee Status

BK0105030091 Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian 24 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] Penang, BUANA—The fate of the 112 Indonesian nationals who fled to Malaysia has been determined. The Malaysian Government rejected their request for refugee status, and the Aceh residents will be repatriated to Indonesia.

Malaysian Deputy Foreign Minister Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said this in Penang, Malaysia on Tuesday. BUANA correspondent Ahmad Naser reported from Penang that the decision made by the Mahathir government corresponds with Indonesia's stand.

From the beginning, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has firmly stated that the Indonesian nationals from Aceh who landed in Malaysia are illegal immigrants. They cannot be categorized as refugees.

The Indonesian Government, Abdullah said, has given assurance that it will not take stern action against the returnees. "However, we will not interfere in Indonesia's internal affairs," Abdullah said.

"All the Indonesian nationals will be sent back to their hometowns," Abdullah continued. The Aceh residents are currently being detained at the Immigration Detention Center in Penang. They are placed under extremely tight security.

In Jakarta, Wiryono Sastrohandoyo, director general for political affairs of the Indonesian Department of Foreign Affairs, told BUANA that the Malaysian Government's decision was consistent with what it said earlier. "Indonesia highly appreciates the decision."

Sudomo, coordinating minister for politics and security, has also given a similar assurance to the Aceh residents. "There will be no arrest or legal action against them," Sudomo told newsmen following a coordinating meeting on political and security affairs on Monday. The government, Sudomo said, will even attend to their problems.

As reported earlier, the 112 Indonesian nationals from Aceh did not land in Malaysia in one group. Fifty-two persons landed at Teluk Bahang, Penang aboard a fishing boat on 15 March 1991. Later, 32 persons landed at Tanjung Bungah, Penang on 4 April 1991. Twenty-eight persons landed at Kuala Kedah, Kedah three days later.

Alatas on Continued Improvement in Australia Ties

BK3004151491 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas is optimistic that Indonesian-Australian bilateral relations will improve further in the future.

Answering questions by Radio Republic of Indonesia after attending an Indonesian General Election Comittee meeting in Jakarta this morning, Minister Ali Alatas said that there were return visits by the foreign ministers of the two countries in connection with the signing of the Eastern Gap agreement and the reactivation of exchange visits and talks between senior officials of the two countries.

[Begin Alatas recording] We should not be too (?concerned) with problems or issues that may occasionally arise or possibly occur between us and our close neighbors, who have totally different political and other systems. It would be better if we fully concentrate our efforts on issues that can further unite us, such as being involved in cooperative projects that could further enhance relations of bilateral cooperation, as well as create deeper understanding between us. [end recording]

According to Minister Ali Alatas, the director general of politics in the Foreign Affairs Department will visit Australia soon to hold a series of talks with Australian officials on various issues.

Minister Says Government Will Not Harrass Press

BK3004152791 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1252 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Jakarta, Apr 30 (OANA/ANTARA)—The government has no intention to frighten or to try to silence the press, because it believes that if the mass media launch criticism, it must have been considered carefully, Minister of Information Harmoko stated here Tuesday.

Minister Harmoko made the remark in commenting on a recent statement by House Deputy Speaker Saiful Sulun that the press lacked courage to criticise the government, instead the press had focused their reports on the weakness of the House's working mechanism.

Speaking to newsmen after calling on President Suharto at Bina Graha Presidential Office here, the minister further said that there was no intention of the government to frighten and even to silence the press.

However, the minister called on the press management to think about the enhancement of coverage activities of the legislative body.

He said that he had to make such a call because reporters assigned to the House of Representatives had to cover various activities of the House commissions which were taking place at the same time.

Minister Harmoko called on the head of state to report the preparations for the celebration of the national awakening day which falls on May 20.

Touching on the function of the national press, Minister Harmoko said that the mass media constituted one of democratic forums as they had a task to disseminate information both from the government and the community and to make social control.

In addition, he went on, the national press has to channel the people's aspirations.

He went on to say that if the press carried untrue stories, so the reporters should be responsible for such stories. Readers, who are felt to be cheated, will leave their papers unread, Harmoko added.

The minister expressed his conviction that the national press has now been more mature than before and able to select worthy news for the general public.

I believe that the national press would not publish groundless reports, he asserted. Therefore, he is of the opinion that the press criticism on the government has nothing to do with the fear of the press of the government.

During the meeting with the president, Minister Harmoko also reported on preparations for the national conference of his ministry due to take place next June in Jakarta. Autoprocessing Division

Philippines

Laurel: No Permanent Foreign Military Bases

HK0105055091 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0030 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Interview with Vice President Salvador H. Laurel on the "Liberty in Action" program hosted by Joe Taruc—live; passages in italics in English]

[Excerpts] [Passage ommitted] [Taruc] Okay, Mr. Vice President, let us talk about primary issues, particularly these ongoing U.S. military bases talks. Could you tell us your feelings about this? What can you say about the development of the negotiations?

[Laurel] I am not happy with what I see because it seems that our panel has no direction. They keep changing what they say. It started with all options open. Then *they took a very hard line.* Secretary Manglapus said *pay more or get out.* You can remember that. Or *pay 1 billion dollars a year or get out.* Then it changed again until oh, you just have to go, then *one to three years,* then *three to five years,* then *five to seven,* and now it has reached *seven to 10.* So I said the foreigners will not respect us if we do not have a consistent, unified position. But Secretary Manglapus says one thing, Alran Bengzon says another, and at times, Alunan also says another thing. So, how will we be respected by the foreigners? [passage ommitted]

[Taruc] Are you in favor of the extension of the military bases' retention in our country?

[Laurel] My position about that is very clear, Joe, and it has not changed. My position is this, *no foreign military bases should ever be permanent in any host country.* The military bases of any foreign country should never be allowed to stay forever. That should be temporary, and because it is temporary, the period should be fixed. So my proposal is *let us phase out these bases to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Philippine Republic. So that by 1998,* the military bases are gone. And this will time with the 100th anniversary of the Philippine Republic *and the 100th anniversary of American presence in the Philippines.* I think 100 years would be enough. *And they should go.* [passage ommitted]

Further Reportage on Indian President's Visit

Talks With Aquino; Signs Accords

HK3004121291 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 30 Apr 91 pp 1, 2

[By reporter Dionisio Tubianosa]

[Text] India and the Philippines yesterday signed a five-year nuclear research accord and agreed to cooperate in the peaceful use of atomic energy.

The agreement was signed by Indian President Ramaswami Venkataraman and President Aquino on the second day of the Indian chief of state's four-day state visit to the Philippines.

They also signed a separate 10-year accord for the exchange of information and technology to boost agricultural output, improve irrigation systems, and develop farming cooperatives.

Before the signing, the two heads of state held talks which lasted for 20 minutes, during which the Indian leader extended an official invitation to Mrs Aquino to visit India, possibly within the year.

In a press briefing in Malacanang, Indian External Affairs Minister L. Mehrotra said that Mrs Aquino accepted the invitation in principle.

Ambassador Romualdo Ong, director general for East Asia Afairs of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), said that Mrs Aquino's visit to India would depend on the overall situation in the country.

At the beginning of the year, Mrs Aquino said that she was against taking any foreign trip this year unless the country attains stability and the trip promised to be productive.

The Indian President said that he would be looking forward to welcoming Mrs Aquino anytime she decides to visit India.

Mrs Aquino said that the visit gave both nations fresh opportunities to expand bilateral relations, particularly in their efforts to arrive at more equitable and balanced trade relations, which at present lean in India's favor.

Mrs Aquino also briefed the Indian leader on political and other economic matters of mutual interest. She declared that the threat coming from the rightist and leftist movements was fast receding, including the secessionist movement in the South.

Mrs Aquino also mentioned the confidence which the international community has shown in the country by extending to it financial and other meaningful support to help it enhance its national economic recovery thrust.

For his part, Venkataraman called for stronger relations between the South Asia Association Regional Conference (SAARC) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), particularly in the field of trade and technical cooperation.

He also called for more training and technical exchanges between developing countries, saying "technical expertise could not be the monopoly of developed nations."

Taking note of the emerging political and economic order in the world, Mrs Aquino stresed that bilateral and regional cooperation should be geared toward economic development and universal peace.

Both leaders expressed the hope that the emerging United Europe, which includes Eastern European countries, and the formation of a new American economic group would not be a "fortress" that will block the progress and development of Third World nations.

Mehrotra said that any new United Europe or the Americas should have global orientation, otherwise "we cannot look at the proposition with a great degree of enthusiasm."

"United Europe should extend the benefits of their unity to other countries," Mehrotra added.

Last night, Mrs Aquino hosted a state dinner for the visiting Indian president, his wife, and his official entourage in Malacanang.

At 10 o'clock this morning, the Indian leader will be conferred an honorary Doctorate of Laws by the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City.

Venkataraman is the very first Indian head of state to visit the Philippines since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1952.

Vow To Strengthen Economic Ties

HK3004120091 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 30 Apr 91 p 1

[By staff member Lito Zulueta]

[Text] President Aquino and visiting Indian President Rarmaswami Venkataraman warned yesterday against the formation of a "United Europe" with protectionist tendencies as both leaders vowed to strengthen their two countries' economic relations.

In a one-on-one meeting and bilateral discussions with Mrs Aquino in Malacanang, Venkataraman reportedly said the Philippines and India should be "watchful" of emerging economic blocs, especially the formation next year of a One Europe, uniting the West and the East.

"He (Venkataraman) wondered aloud if developing countries would have a place (in a United Europe) in terms of trade," said Ambassador Romualdo Ong, the director-general of the Asian-Pacific desk of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

"We must be very clear," said L.L. Mehrotra, secretray of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs. "A United Europe can be a source of strength for others so long as it extends to other countries the benefits of its unity."

Mrs Aquino also expressed reservations on a "Fortress Europe" as she had done so in the past.

Ong said the Philippines is keenly watching developments on the formation of one Europe.

"We have to see what place we have in this scheme of things—for countries outside of the European (continent)," he said.

Venkataraman said that with the thawing of the Cold War, potential for conflict has shifted from the political arena to the economic field. "We should be vigilant so new economic imperialism develops," Ong quoted the Indian leader as saying.

Metrotra said that if only to guard against the economic domination by any one country, India would play a leading role in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

"There should be a group of countries that should stand for justice and equity," Mehrotra said. He added that the Philipines, which is an observer in the NAM, is welcomed to become full member of the group "when the time is ready for it."

Ong said Venkataraman complained that industrialized countries are using the Uruguay round of the GATT talks "to strengthen their own positions."

The Indian leader, said Ong, also complained that developed countries are forcing the economies and banking systems of developing nations to open themselves without shedding off their protectionism.

He said that like Europe, the Americas are moving toward the formation of its own economic bloc, with the free trade group of the US and Canada. Ong said Venkataraman noted that Mexico and Latin American countries had been invited to join the grouping.

There was no mention during the discussion of the East Asian Economic Grouping proposed by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammed, the two spokesmen said. But Ong indicated that Mrs Aquino and Venkataraman would not support the Mahathir initiative.

"The Philippines and India are firm believers in preserving the free market system in the world," said Ong. "But both leaders referred to the need for strengthening economic cooperation in the light of developments in all regions of the world."

In this connection, Mrs Aquino expressed hope the trade gap between the Philippines and India, would be bridged, Ong said.

Senators Call Taiwan Sanction Threat 'Blackmail'

HK0105081191 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 1 May 91 p 6

[By staff member Johanna Son]

[Text] Several senators yesterday protested as "blackmail" and "saber-rattling" Taiwan's threat to suspend trade relations with Manila in retaliation for the detention of its fishermen intruding in Philippine waters.

Sen. Leticia Shahani, chairman of the foreign relations committee, said Taiwan's threat was a bit "too much" and called for negotiations over recurring intrusions of the island nation into Philippine waters.

She said that legislation giving a "quasi-government" nature to Taipei-Manila relations would provide a mechanism to settle disputes, and urged the Philippines to formally draw up these archipelagic baselines.

Mercado, head of the committee on trade and commerce, said that the Taiwanese threat was an "insult" because it was playing on the Philippines' need for its economic assistance and investments. "That's an insult because they know we're poor. Once and for all, we should stand our ground, we should not shudder at every saber-rattling of another nation," he added.

"Their having economic clout here does not give them license to plunder our waters," Mercado stressed.

He said that Manila could improve its position by "once and for all learning to police our waters" by beefing up the often-decrepit Navy.

Sen. Ernesto Herrera called the Taiwanese threat "blackmail." Sen. Heherson Alvarez, author of one of two Senate bills upgrading ties with Taiwan, found the island nation's attitude "highly irregular."

He urged Taiwan to first determine if the Philippines was indeed illegally detaining its fishermen, and if so, to resort to diplomatic negotiations instead of threatening economic sanctions.

Shahani said the latest intrusion into Philippine waters by Taiwanese trawlers highlighted the need for a border agreement with the island nation, which could not be done within existing "people-to-people" relations between the two countries.

She said a bill allowing quasi-official ties with Taiwan would allow Manila a mechanism to discuss problems such as smuggling and the plight of Filipino overseas workers.

The foreign relations committee is finalizing a bill allowing economic, social and cultural ties with countries the Philippines has no diplomatic ties with, including Taiwan.

Last April 14, the Navy arrested and detained nine Taiwanese fishermen, aboard three boats, who were fishing within the Philippines' 12-nautical mile territory and 78 nautical miles from Taiwan's southermost tip.

Navy Reports Intrusions Into Maritime Borders

HK0105075391 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 1 May 91 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Manny Mogato]

[Text] Naval authorities have reported an average of 20 foreign fishing boats a month intruding into the country's vast territorial and exclusive economic zones in the face of numerous disputed areas in the country's maritime borders.

More than 80% of these foreign fishing boats were Taiwanese trawlers hauling yellow fin and skipjack tuna in northern Luzon and in the vast fishing grounds near the Kalayaan chain of islands.

There were also reports of Malaysian warships and unconfirmed and unidentified submarine sitings in other parts of the country's territorial waters.

The presence of foreign fishing and military ships were reported in the areas where the country has border disputes with at least four Southeast Asian countries.

The ill-equipped naval forces have limited capabilities to patrol these disputed areas, giving the other countries access to the country's 12-mile territorial and 200-mile exclusive economic zones.

Naval authorities have identified the disputed areas as the narrow Bashi Channel in northern Luzon, where Taiwan is claiming a 200-mile exclusive economic zone over the 50-mile channel; the Las Palmas Island in southeastern part of Mindanao, where both Palau Island, a U.S. trust territory and Indonesia have an overlapping territorial as well as economic zone claims; the Taganak Island in southwestern Philippines where the country has similar overlapping claims with Malaysia; and the controversial Kalayaan chain of islands in Western Philippines where China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan, and the Philippines have overlapping claims over the strategic area.

Naval authorities claim that border disputes may arise not only over fishing and other economic activities but also because of security considerations.

For instance, they have monitored spy ships in some parts of the country, including some Taiwanese fishing boats equipped with radar and were apparently engaged in smuggling, gun running and other activities that might affect national security.

Naval forces Spokesman Commander Reuben Lista said the naval forces needed newer and faster warships to protect the country's borders as well as the vast fishing grounds and other marine resources which the foreigners are openly exploiting.

He said Taiwan and Malaysia have been mocking the local Navy's capability in patroling the borders.

The country was among the first UN member-state to adopt the 200-mile exclusive economic zone based on the third UN Convention on the Law of the Seas (CLOS) in 1979.

Until the UN-CLOS began defining territorial boundaries for coastal and archipelagic states, the three-nautical-mile limit was commonly used among neighboring countries.

But after World War II, UN decided to reset the border limits and began implementing the uniform 12-mile territorial limit; the 24-mile contiguous limit where coastal and archipelagic states can enforce customs, internal revenue and security laws on ships; and the 200-mile exclusive economic zones which gives every country the right and sovereignty to explore and exploit fishing and marine resources.

The adoption of the 200-mile economic zone not only gave the country an additional 276,000 square-nautical mile area but also gave the local Navy a Herculean task to patrol these areas, considering their limited capabilities.

The 200-mile exclusive economic zone also opened possible disputes with other countries like Taiwan in the north Indonesia, Malaysia, and Palau in the south, and Vietnam and China in the southwest.

The country has a border agreement with Indonesia, preventing possible dispute over Las Palmas Island which is occupied by Indonesia but is historically and geographically under the Philippine 12-mile and 200-mile exclusive economic zone.

The country is also working a similar agreement with Malaysia to resolve disputes in the fishing grounds in southern Palawan where 19 Filipino fishermen were arrested and jailed for 30 days in Kuala Lumpur three years ago.

The military suggested that a third-party negotiation with Taiwan would ease tension in the northern border, but the problem is being complicated because the two countries have no diplomatic ties and Taiwan is not a UN member.

Lista said there is no other way to resolve border disputes with other countries except through diplomacy because we have a weaker naval force.

But the country would also need a stronger naval force to complement its diplomatic initiative and give the government a strong negotiating position.

President Aquino's 1 May Labor Day Speech

HK0105054491 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0135 GMT 1 May 91

[Speech by President Corazon Aquino at the Philippine International Convention Center on Labor Day, 1 May— live in English; passages in italics in Tagalog]

[Text] Secretary Ruben Torres, Mr. Democrito Mendoza, Mr. Johnny Tan, Mr. Greg del Prado, Your Excellencies of the diplomatic corps, distinguished members of the Senate and the House of Representatives, fellow workers in government, *my dear countrymen*:

We celebrate this day annually, Labor Day. I would like to reiterate the government's recognition of the workers.

In the aftermath of EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue], our newly regained democracy gave our people more equitable and fair access to opportunities for socioeconomic betterment. Freedom has enabled the wider mass base of our people to participate in our moves to alleviate poverty. In labor, the democratic structures and mechanisms that we have reestablished have afforded you, our workers, far greater guarantees for the exercise of your rights.

Labor's gains are the nation's gains. These gains are particularly felt in the areas of welfare and employment, wages and productivity, and labor relations. Since 1986 we have expanded the overall scheme for welfare and social services, particularly in the delivery of welfare services to workers. We have rationalized our skills training programs, particularly for those from disadvantaged groups to fit the requirement of industries as well as the needs of those who opt for self-employment.

Among our special beneficiaries are our Muslim brothers who have been given training to prepare themselves for overseas jobs, especially in the Middle East, and our women workers who have been trained in nontraditional trade such as in fields previously dominated by males. Our manpower's skills training programs have increased their coverage by an average of 25 percent, or from about 97,000 to about 226,000 from 1986 to 1990.

We have provided not only training but additional livelihood opportunity, among which are one-stop shops for livelihood called Kabuhayan Centers, which bring together various government agencies and NGO's [nongovernment organizations]. Our efforts to improve job placements at the local levels are paying off. We have operationalized community employment centers all over the country, and since 1986 have also maintained a national network of regional job exchange centers to spearhead local job placement services. Mainly through these efforts we were able to place some 139,000 job seekers in 1990 alone. So that despite economic pressures on our people we have effectively reduced the unemployment rate to 8.6 percent last year. This has been made possible by our aggressive pursuit of job generation as well as employment promotion activities.

As for our overseas workers who continue to be a major foreign exchange earner for us, we were able to deploy more than 446,000 workers, earning for the country from $927 million for 1990 alone despite the Gulf crisis. With the end of the Gulf war, thousands of our workers are again in line for deployment to the Middle East. Simultaneously, we are exploring other potential labor markets to provide our workers with more job opportunities.

Over the period 1986 to 1990 overseas placements grew by an average of five percent, despite such problems as the recent contraction of the overseas job market as well as changing market trends and shifts in skills requirement. Income remittances from our overseas contract workers ranks third among the top 10 sources of the country's foreign exchange.

To help our workers with higher cost of living we have instituted mechanisms to ensure for our workers adequate and realistic wages and a larger share of their productivity. In June 1989, you will recall that I signed into law Republic Act No. 6727, or the Wage Rationalization Act, so that our workers will have a decent standard of living while business and industry may be allowed reasonable returns on investments.

In 1990, regional tripartite wages and productivity boards were made operational in each of the country's regions. The boards, as you all know, include labor's very own representatives. While the prices of basic goods and services rose late last year, the board issued wage orders calling for adjustments to give workers immediate economic relief from the price hike. This, notwithstanding, many of you continiue to express some amount of impatience with the wage board and their orders. It is for this reason that I have instructed the Department of Labor and Employment [DOLE] in November of last year to convene before the end of this year a meeting of experts from all concerned sectors—government, labor, and management—so that an assessment may be made of the continued viability of Republic Act 6727 and the performance of the wage boards.

Even if this administration's policy is not to interfere with wages as long as the workers are not oppressed, we still have ordered the minimum wage increase. In the field of labor relations we broadened the democratization of trade unions by granting employees in the public sector the same rights to organize into collective negotiations as the workers in the private sector.

For the labor force in government service, I issued in 1987 Executive Order No. 180 setting the guidelines for the exercise of the right to self-organization of government employees. This order has now borne fruit. In my dialogue with the representatives of the public sector unions yesterday, I approved a memorandum of understanding between the executive and the representatives of government employees organizations. This is the product of a six-month negotiation between government managers and representatives of 209 government employees associations. The memorandum details the commitment of our public servants to their duties as well as to productivity and peace in their work place.

On the part of government, the memo mentions new benefits that government hopes to provide them, among which are: a relief allowance for most government employees, the establishement of a government employees union's cooperative, and the monetization of vacation leave credits which I had mentioned in September last year during Civil Service Week.

We are, likewise, studying the feasibility of giving representation to employees' organizations in their respective policymaking bodies of government agencies. When I signed the memo yesterday, I expressed the wish that representatives of Congress could also be signatories of these documents. For many of the measures that we hope to adopt to alleviate the condition of our poorly paid public servants would require the passage of specific laws. I, therefore, strongly urge Congress' expeditious approval of the bill on increased personal tax exemptions, the proposed Civil Service Code, as well as the General Appropriations Act of 1991, which includes a provision of cost of living allowances, the last one early enough to enable covered government employees to avail themselves of this benefit in time for the opening of classes in June. [applause]

At the end of 1990, the Department of Labor and Employment recorded an average growth rate of 19 percent in trade union registration over the last five years and 21 percent in the number of registered collective bargaining agreements. Notably, a declining trend in strike incidents has been sustained over the five-year period at an average of 25 percent.

In May last year a tripartite industrial peace accord was forged spelling out the commitment of the three social partners to the declared state policies in labor relations; and soon after, the tripartite industrial peace council was established. We have taken note of the areas of concern which the council had just spelled out. Today, I take this opportunity to announce government's initiative to respond to your concern.

The first initiative is for integrated livelihood projects. I am making available beginning today a grant of 10 million [Philippine] pesos for all labor unions currently accredited by the Department of Labor and Employment as a revolving fund for livelihood projects for their almost 3 million members. [applause] This is to reinforce DOLE's integrated livlihood programs which benefitted 16,035 families in 1990 alone.

Second, I understand that some unions are planning to set up a hospital for workers. If all of our workers' groups will pool their resources together to build this hospital, I will immediately direct the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office to help equip and maintain it. [applause]

Third, I am directing the Cooperative Development Authority to deputize and accredit trade union centers so that our workers can set up their own cooperative enterprises.

Fourth is in furtherance of Republic Act No. 6971 for the Productivity Incentives Act. We are prepared to give special tax deductions to private companies which can immediately implement their own productivity incentives programs, which to be meaningful, must include generous wage increases and periodic salary bonuses for their employees. [applause]

Fifth, I am approving today the enhancement of benefits in the Social Security System [SSS], increasing by 15 percent across the board the monthly pesion of all SSS and employees' compensation pensioners [applause] who were receiving pensions as of April 30, 1991 and additionally increasing the minimum amount of monthly pensions for present and future beneficiaries from 500 pesos to 600 pesos for disability and retirement pensioners. These alone will immediately benefit 400,000 pensioners. Likewise, the Government Service Insurance System, has adopted a series of measure effective today increasing monthly pensions as follows: 200 pesos monthly for old age and disability pensioners receiving the 600-peso monthly minimum; 100-peso increase for surviving spouses of deceased pensioners receiving the 300-peso monthly minimum; and a 10 percent increase, but not exceeding 300 pesos monthly for pensioners receiving pensions higher than the minimum. [applause]

Sixth, I am directing the Housing and Development Coordinating Council to give priority to low income workers applying for housing benefits. Only last March, the Cabinet approved the Council's target for 1991 of 120,000 units as well as a funding increase of 1.7 billion pesos from the government institutions.

Seventh, I am directing the DOLE to open more job exchange as well as skills training centers in key cities and municipalities to ensure a wider choice of government programs related to job creation and job scales' upgrading. I am, likewise, directing the DOLE to further strengthen existing special programs for our Muslims and other cultural communities. Furthermore, I am replicating the Kabuhayan Centers in all regions of the country to maximize access to livelihood information.

Eigth, I am directing the Assets Privatization Trust [APT] to provide the Department of Labor and Employment an inventory of government-owned and controlled companies to be privatized and the APT and the Cooperative Development Authority to set up mechanisms which will allow workers and their unions to participate in the sale of privatized government-owned or controlled corporations. [applause]

Ninth, I am reiterating my instructions for the DOLE to immediately convene the tripartite meeting of experts from labor, government, and private sectors to assess the viability in performance of regional wage boards. Let me stress the importance of automatic mechanisms that would (?faster end) corrective measures in the wage structure of any region, especially during crisis situation.

And finally I am signing today Republic Act No. 6982 or the Social Amelioration Act in the sugar industry, sharing our goal to improve the economic lot of workers in the industry. The Senate and the House of Representatives approved and passed in March of this year a consolidated version of the administration bill to uplift our sugar workers. More than 400,000 sugar workers in the country will benefit from the proceeds of the (?lean) per picul of sugar and increase from two pesos to five pesos of which nine percent of the total amount raised is allotted for socioecnomic projects for the workers.

Additionally, the law shall create a national tripartite council in the sugar industry to serve as the advisory body of the Department of Labor and Employment on matters related to socioeconomic programs for sugar workers. At present, government thrust regarding compensation is focused on the granting of nonwage benefits. We believe that nonmonetary benefits constitute a better package and a fairer one both to workers and employers than the increase in wages sought by millions of our workers. The nonwage benefits provided to our sugar workers by Republic Act No. 6982 will enhance their productivity through the improvement of their earning potentials.

We pin our hopes particularly on the benefits intended for socioeconomic projects that will not only increase their incomes but also augment their livelihood options. Let me now appeal to labor to help us attract more investors to the country and encourage the flowering of the entrepreneurial spirit. Help us show the world that the Filipino worker is hardworking, industrious, competent, and committed, a dependable partner in economic recovery.

Finally, I congratulate again our senators and congressmen, particularly the authors of this measure and the members of the conference committee for this innovative approach to solve national problems and to enhance the common good. To meaningfully celebrate this Labor Day, I will now affix my signatures to these laws. [applause]

Aquino Signs State Workers' Benefits Agreement

HK0105080591 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 1 May 91 p 1, 6

[By staff members Lito Zulueta and Booma Cruz]

[Excerpt] President Aquino signed yesterday an agreement with government unions providing for the grant of P9.2 billion [Philippine Pesos] in benefits to state workers who in turn pledged not to go on strike for redress of grievance.

Today, Labor Day, Mrs Aquino is expected to announce non-wage benefits for private-sector workers probably in a breakfast meeting with representatives of moderate labor groups.

Mrs Aquino earlier rejected organized labor's demand for a P21 wage increase and a rollback in oil prices. Labor is undaunted by this setback and is expected to submit to the President its demands today.

The agreement, Civil Service Chairperson Patricia Sto. Tomas said, is "the first CBA (collective bargaining agreement)" between government employees and the Executive branch.

Under this, the President will press Congress to grant the proposed relief allowance for the government workers retroactive to Jan. 1 this year. Total claims total P7.2 billion. Sto. Tomas said this may be approved by next month in time for the school opening.

The President will also order the cash conversion of leave credits amounting to P2 billion. The money will come from the savings of government offices, Sto. Tomas said.

Other benefits were also given the government workers.

The Government Service Insurance System will sets aside P50 million annually for a study-now-pay-later plan for the workers and their dependents.

The President will also contribute P10 million from her Social Fund as seed money for the setting up of a government employees' consumer cooperative.

The workers, aside from pledging not to go on strike, promised to improve productivity and observe strictly the code of conduct for civil servants.

They also promised to exert more effort to hasten the delivery of basic services, report anomalies in their offices, and observe political neutrality.

During the signing ceremonies, the President said the agreement proved her administration's resolve to energize the bureaucracy.

"Despite arguments to the contrary, I can confidently say that we have not neglected the public sector," she said.

Leaders of government unions said they were not satisfied with the package but were thankful nonetheless that government had agreed to bargain.

Vicente Ramos, chairman of the Caucus of Independent Unions, said they originally were pressing for a P1,000 across-the-board salary increase and the grant of transportation allowance.

However, Ramos said the unions recognized that the government is having financial problems.

Nonetheless, he said the agreement "institutionalized" bargaining between the government and its employees. "It falls short of our expectations, but it's a good start."

Sto. Tomas said the agreement should be viewed with an eye to history. "This is more than what goverment granted in the past, and this starts a process that was not there before."

Meanwhile, private-sector workers said they expect to receive nothing substantial from government, but hope that their demands would be given.

They have been pressing for several economic and political concessions, particularly a rollback in oil prices, the abolition of the 9% import levy, and the implementation and issuance of final wage orders.

Representatives of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP), Labor Advisory and Consultative Council (LACC), Federation of Free Workers (FFW), Lakas Manggagawa [Work Force] Labor Center (LMLC) and affiliates of the World Federation of Trade Unions will present organized labor's demands to the government in a breakfast meeting with the President. The four labor groups, which also joined forces last year, will then hold separate Labor Day programs that will dwell on "making democracy work for social and economic progress."

The Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) [1 May Movement], which was not invited to the meeting with the President, will echo almost the same demands in an "anti-poverty" march-rally of at least 150,00 workers from the Quirino grandstand to Malacanang this afternoon. Target mobilizations of KMU outside of Metro Manila are 15,000 in Cebu, 25,000 in Mindanao, 12,000 in Southern Tagalog, 10,000 in Central Luzon, 5,000 in Northern Luzon, 25,000 in Negros, 3,000 in Leyte, 2,000 in Iloilo, 15,000 in Davao and 10,000 in Iligan.

Crispin Beltran, KMU chairman, said organized labor is subordinating the traditional demand for wage increases to a rollback in oil prices because salary adjustments have very limited benefits. He warmed that workers would launch mass actions and a general strike if government continues to ignore their demands. [passage omitted]

Aquino Leaves Resignation Decision to Ramos

HK0105074391 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 1 May 91 p 9

[Text] President Aquino yesterday said she would leave to Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos the decision on exactly when he would resign his Cabinet post to campaign for the nomination of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino. [LDP—Struggle of Philippine Democrats]

"I will respect the decision of Secretary Ramos as to the exact timing of his stepping down from the (defense) post," the President said in a statement.

For his part, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos yesterday said he would only resign from his Cabinet position once President Aquino has indicated his services were no longer needed in government.

"I will abide by what further decision she feels is proper," he told reporters after addressing a group of factory workers and urban poor at the Army and Navy Club in Manila. "I am guided by what the President would want to be done because after all, I work for her in the Cabinet and the matter of my replacement would be of vital importance to her."

But the LDP secretary general, Rep Jose Cojuangco Jr said there was no need for Ramos to resign from the Cabinet.

"I think he should stay as long as he feels he can still function properly in his position," Cojuangco told Malacanang reporters.

Cojuangco, the President's younger brother and close political adviser, said a Cabinet member should not resign his post just because he was joining a party.

He said past administrations had Cabinet members who were party members.

Cojuangco added it should be left to the people to judge if Ramos was using his office for self-aggrandizement.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lt Gen Lisandro Abadia said Ramos should observe "self-restraint" to ensure that his acts would not be "misinterpreted."

Earlier, Ramos was sworn in as a member of the LDP. He expressed hopes of being given a fighting chance to clinch the LDP nomination for the 1992 presidential elections.

Ramos is expected to compete with House Speaker Ramon Mitra for the nomination.

At the club, Ramos said he was not pressured by insistent calls from some politicians that he resign, after he had joined the LDP last week.

"I don't intend to hang on to my job. But while I'm still on this job, I will concentrate and do it to the best of my ability and any political and personal agenda on my part will be secondary," he said.

Army Head Assures Neutral Military in 1992 Polls

HK3004120691 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 30 Apr 91 pp 1, 24

[By Wilma N. Yamzon]

[Text] Lt. Gen. Lisandro Abadia, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), assured political candidates yesterday that the military will stay neutral in the 1992 elections even if Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, a presidential aspirant, stays as head of the Department of National Defense.

Abadia made the assurance in the wake of reports that the AFP would favor Ramos in his bid to become president.

Certain sectors in the government have been urging Ramos to resign after he joined the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LDP) [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] last week to pursue his bid for the presidency.

Some political observers, including government officials, expressed apprehension that Ramos might take advantage of his position and use his influence in promoting his political ambition.

At a press conference in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Abadia said he will see to it that the military keeps its distance from political affairs in the country.

"I will not allow any of my men to be involved in politics because I don't want to be called in the future as chief of staff who was used by politicians," he said.

He said the President will decide on how long Ramos will stay as defense chief or until such time that the secretary resigns from his post before the 1992 elections.

Abadia stressed that since Ramos confirmed his membership in the LDP, he has has not received any reaction from officers about the defense chief's political aim.

"I'm nobody's man," Abadia told reporters.

Meanwhile, Abadia visited yesterday the Philippine Marines headquarters at Fort Bonifacio in Makati and denied rumors of "restiveness" among Marine soldiers.

In a dialogue, Abadia urged Marine officers and men to "be true to their commitment as soldiers and uphold the ideals of democracy."

He commended them for being an effective "maneuvering force" whenever there is crisis in the country.

He cited the marines in quelling the Noble uprising in Mindanao last year as well as their courage in going after big kidnaping groups in Cotabato.

Marines have intensified pursuit operations against kidnapers, forcing one of the biggest armed bands in Cotabato to surrender.

The soldiers also assisted in the release of kidnaped french priest Yves Caroff in Cotabato last week.

Ramos Assures 'Strategic Control' Over Insurgency

HK0105081391 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 1 May 91 p 4

[By Leonardo Q. Belen]

[Text] General Santos City—Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos yesterday reiterated his assurances that the military will attain "strategic control" over insurgency in the country before the end of President Aquino's term in 1992 as he commended here the teamwork of the local government, the military, the police and the citizenry in achieving a low crime rate in this city.

Ramos flew here yesterday for meetings with the military command here, with Mayor Rosalie Nunez, and members of the South Cotabato Fishermen Association.

The crime rate in this booming city of 250,000 population is only 9 percent of every 100,000 population, which is less than one half of the national crime rate of 21.

Ramos said the commendable peace and order situation in this city is due mainly to teamwork, all under the local Peace and Order Council.

Ramos also accepted the surrender of 26 members of the New People's Army [NPA], negotiated by Mayor Pyang L. Singcoy of Malopatan, South Cotabato.

He noted developments in South Cotabato where many NPAs are giving up to resume their role as responsible and law-abiding citizens.

In a briefing, military officers here said not a single member of the Philippine National Police participated in recent kidnapings here, as shown by investigation conducted by a criminal investigation team from headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo Quezon City.

The command here said the NPA is dwindling in number, and what it is now doing is simply trying to save whatever is left in their possession.

The military command here and the Philippine National Police have stepped up their saturation drive in well-known lairs of criminals and their checkpoints and special operations against insurgents.

Senator on 'Alarming Offensive' by Insurgency

HK3004121091 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 30 Apr 91 p 3

[By reporters Ross Manlangit and Dario Agnote]

[Text] Senator Ernesto Maceda yesterday revealed that armed operations of the New People's Army (NPA) have shown an alarming offensive pattern over the first four months of this year, and warned the nation against being led into a "false sense of security" by government pronouncements about a greatly diminished insurgency problem.

As this developed, Lieutenant General Lisandro C. Abadia, the Armed Forces chief of staff, himself noted "some disturbing signs" that need to be immediately attended to by both the military and police forces to thwart further attacks by the communist insurgents in the countryside.

In a privilege speech, Maceda, who heads the powerful Senate committee on national defense, said that unknown to many, the NPA had initiated a total of 171 armed encounters with government troops from January 1 to April 26 this year, enjoying in the process a lower battle casualty record.

From the operations reports compiled by the AFP's [Armed Forces of the Philippines] General Headquarters, which Maceda apparently had secured from the AFP top brass, the senator said that 563 government troops were killed as against 447 for the NPA during the four-month period.

The encounters were reported in at least 44 provinces, Maceda said, as he stressed that the sheer number of the encounter sites could only mean that the NPA operates on a wide territory in the country. Twenty of the provinces are in Luzon, nine in the Visayas, and 15 in Mindanao.

On interpellation by Senate Minority Leader Juan Ponce Enrile, a former defense minister who admittedly has a working knowledge of the NPA problem, Maceda disclosed "disturbing reports" that NPA units were operating in "company-to-battalion-size" contingents.

This, Maceda said, could suggest a number of operational advantages in many places on the NPA side, and on the government side, disadvantages.

"This should serve as a warning to the President and the national leadership against being engrossed in politicking," he said.

"It is clear that the NPA is on the offensive and resurgence despite claims to the contrary of the defense and military establishments," he added.

Citing more AFP reports and statistics, Maceda said that in at least 30 encounters, the NPA appeared to have won 17 and was showing a firearms loss-recovery ratio of 1:1. From 1988 to 1990, the loss-recovery ratio was 3:1 in favor of the government.

Maceda raised questions about the effectiveness of the Citizens Armed Force Geographical Units (CAFGU) program, for which the government was spending millions yearly. He agreed with Enrile that a review of the rationale of this paramilitary force for counterinsurgency purposes be looked into.

Maceda also claimed that in some cases NPA-AFP incidents were misreported as in the reported casualty toll in a recent encounter between AFP troopers and the NPA guerilla group of rebel priest Father Frank Navarro in Mindanao. While the AFP admitted a loss of 17 lives in the incident, its claims of 30 NPA dead was not verified and in fact absent in the official AFP report.

Among the prominent losses sustained by the government was the killing of the Masbate Philippine National Police (PNP) commander and Army battalion commander—Lieutenant Colonel Carmelino Dimabayo of the 65th Infantry Battalion of the Philippine Army.

Other statistical findings raised by Maceda were:

—NPAs attacked at least four or more times similar target provinces with Kalinga-Apayao and Cagayan on top of the list with 14 attacks;

—16 other provinces reported four or more NPA offensives in the last four months;
—In 230 AFP-initiated minor engagements, the NPAs lost two or more men only 44 times, and
—NPAs attacked three Albay towns on the same day and overran five government camps in Surigao, Oriental Mindoro and Albay.

Reacting to the reports of an upsurge in NPA activity, Abadia in Camp Aguinaldo said:

"So we have brought this attention to PNP Director General Cesar Nazareno and Local Government Secretary Luis Santos that this must be recognized so that preemptive measures should be done by the PNP, I see this as a trend that both the AFP and the PNP must address at the soonest possible time."

Abadia, however, was quick to say that the military is "still prevailing over the communist insurgents," stressing that the military's counter-insurgency campaign plan, Lambat-Bitag, [Net Trap] is working "very well" in the countryside.

Abadia also appealed to the Senate and the Congress to support the military's P[Philippine peso]150-million additional budget for the CAFGU this year on top of the existing P570 million the CAFGU received last year.

Abadia stressed the need to improve the allocation for the CAFGU this year "because without the CAFGU we will be hard-put in moving forward in our campaign plan."

The CAFGU, he added, is the "holding force" for the AFP's counter-insurgency campaign plan and is important in preventing the NPA guerillas from rebuilding their fronts in the mountains, which have already been dismantled by the military.

New Counterinsurgency Program on Mindoro Island

HK3004120891 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 30 Apr 91 p 11

[By Joel Jabal]

[Text] Calapan, Oriental Mindoro—The Philippine National Police [PNP] has transformed the island of Mindoro, the country's seventh largest, into a counter-insurgency laboratory.

In the last few weeks, the PNP has silently moved in troops, communications equipment and other was materiel, including attack helicopters, to battle an increasingly aggressive communist guerilla force.

Late last month, PNP regional Director Evaristo Carino created Task Force Minda de Oro to launch coordinated and sustained operations against the estimated 250-strong guerillas belonging to the Lucio de Guzman Command of the Mindoro Island Party Committee (MIPC).

The task force, now led by former National Defense College lecturer Col. Rogelio C. Aguana, has in effect consolidated the two Mindoro PNP commands into a single, island-wide force.

Mindoro, with its growing insurgency, is an ideal pilot area for counter-insurgency. Only four hours by land and forty-five minutes by air from Metro Manila, Mindoro can be easily sent with reinforcements should the "situation become critical."

"Mindoro is the first island where the Philippine National Police will be solely responsible in reducing insurgency," PNP Director General Cesar P. Nazareno told field commanders during his visit here last week.

Nazareno's visit was apparently prompted by the April 9 rebel attack on a PNP platoon which left seven PNP men dead and six others wounded. Five others, including Capt. Enrico Salapong, a district commander, and 21 assault rifles were also captured by the rebels.

"I came here to focus on the problem," Nazareno reminded his field commanders." We are not running after plain criminals."

PNP officials here vowed to crush the NPA within three months "through a sustained political and military campaigns."

Under the PNP strategy, assault troops will "bring the fight to where the rebels are" while Special Operations Teams (SOTs) conduct civil-military operations which include propaganda, information dissemination and dialogs with local officials and residents.

The strategy also taps local officials and villagers in the fight against the NPA through the creation of a community-based intelligence network. This network, the PNP hopes, will help them track the rebels movements and activities.

There are now 15 PNP districts and one battalion of Special Action Forces assaulting suspected rebel lairs and camps. They are complemented by 30 SOTs and several battalions of militiamen and local police forces serving as the "holding force for de-influenced areas."

The operations have so far resulted into the capture of two NPA camps. Fifteen rebels were likewise killed while 111 NPA regulars and sympathizers have already surrendered. The PNP also recovered 11 firearms from the rebels.

"If the PNP will be successful in this campaign, it will handle the anti-insurgency campaign nationwide," Col. Jaime A. Lazar, PNP Region IV operations chief remarked during the launching of Task Force Mina de Oro here last month.

Rebels Kill Policemen, Militiaman in Pampanga

HK3004153491 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 30 Apr 91 p 8

[By Fer Taboy, Rudy Andal, and Rowena Salvacion]

[Excerpt] Three Philippine National Police [PNP] operatives and a Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit [CAFGU] member were killed when suspected communist rebels shot them in separate towns in Pampanga. PNP Director Cesar P. Nazareno received the initial report of the first incident which took place at San Luis, Pampanga last Sunday night from Central Luzon PNP Chief Superintendent Pantaleon Dumlao. Police Officer 1 [PO1] Federico Resma, PO1 Restituto Valiente, and PO1 Antonio Villarta were killed. They were all assigned to the 3rd PNP Field Force of San Luis PNP Station.

Based on the report, the three were stationed at a dance show during a fiesta when three men approached and shot them. They died on the spot. The suspects took away their firearms.

A CAFGU member, also guarding a dance show in Barangay Punong Santol, Porac, was also killed. His gun was also taken away by the suspects.

Meanwhile, two New People's Army rebels were captured by the joint forces of the Philippine Army's 24th Infantry Battalion and the 174th PNP Company in western Pampanga. They were identified as Leodorico Paras, alias Comrade Lody, 42, of Mayflower Street, Marisol Village, Angeles City and a Comrade Efren of San Fernando, Pampanga.

Comrade Lody is believed to be the leader of the Mariano Garcia Brigade operating in the western district of the province. He is said to have been involved in killing Sergeant Lucero in 1990 and assisting in the escape of a rebel named Fernando Suangco. [passage omitted]

Thailand

Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu Continues Visit

Accord With Anan on Cambodia

OW3004142391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1409 GMT 30 Apr 91

[By Masanori Kikuta]

[Text] Bangkok, April 30 KYODO—Prime Ministers Toshiki Kaifu of Japan and Anan Panyarachun of Thailand agreed Tuesday to continue joint efforts to resolve the 12-year-old Cambodian conflict, Japanese officials said.

The accord was reached at a two-hour meeting between the two leaders, the first high-level contact between Japan and Thailand since Anan assumed the premiership in March, following the February 23 coup which toppled the government of Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan.

Kaifu, here on the third leg of a five-nation Southeast Asian trip, told Anan that Japan hopes to build on the momentum of peace moves seen throughout East Asia toward the Cambodian situation.

Kaifu called for continued bilateral cooperation to bring about a comprehensive political settlement to the Cambodian war.

Japan and Thailand jointly sponsored a Tokyo meeting on the Cambodian issue last June and held talks with leaders of the tripartite resistance coalition battling the Vietnam-backed Phnom Penh government in the past month. The two countries also contacted Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Phnom Penh government last week.

Anan expressed support for Japan's Cambodian policy, saying he personally thought such an economic power should play a greater political role in international affairs, the officials said.

He was quoted as saying the world community would lose interest in the issue if the war dragged on, and stressed two principles of his government.

One is to give top priority to the interests of Cambodian people in pursuing a solution, and the other is to base a solution on a peace plan devised by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Anan told Kaifu he has urged all the warring parties to turn a temporary ceasefire they are to enforce from Wednesday until the end of the Jakarta meeting in May into a lasting one. The Thai leader has also called on them to attend the meeting and thereby quicken the peace process, the officials said.

Anan added he hopes to tackle the Cambodian issue in close cooperation with Japan, they said.

Kaifu promised Anan that Japan will provide Thailand with another package of official credits not smaller than the amount of the previous loans which totaled 81.2 billion yen, the officials said.

Japan has shelved any new loan package since the military coup, citing technical factors as an official reason. The promise of a 16th credit package was given after Anan confirmed policy continuity from the goverment of deposed Prime Minister Chatchai.

Anan told Kaifu his military-installed interim administration plans to call elections within this year, or by April next year at the latest, to transfer power to a civilian government.

Anan urged Japanese efforts to improve the bilateral trade imbalance, which expanded to 4.98 billion dollars in Japan's favor last year from 3.26 billion dollars in 1989. Specifically, he called for more Japanese imports of foods and other Thai goods to correct the imbalance over the long term.

Anan extended an invitation to the Japanese imperial couple to visit Thailand and Kaifu replied he will discuss the matter after retuning home.

Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko reportedly plan to visit Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia this fall.

Kaifu is scheduled to meet representatives of the three Cambodian resistance groups here Wednesday. He was initially to meet leaders of only the two noncommunist factions, but the powerful Beijing-backed Khmer Rouge has agreed to join the gathering, Japanese sources said. Attending the meeting will be Prince Norodom Ranariddh, son of titular coalition leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, former Cambodian nationalist government head Son Sann, and Khieu Samphan, leader of the Communist Khmer Rouge.

Kaifu, who has so far toured Malaysia and Brunei, will return home May 6 after visiting Singapore and the Philippines.

Further on Talks With Anan

BK0105022391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 May 91 pp 1, 3

[Text] Thailand yesterday expressed strong support for a greater Japanese role in world politics despite its limitations stemming from past experiences.

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun yesterday told his Japanese counterpart, Toshiki Kaifu, that historically speaking Thailand has never adopted an anti-Japanese stance, and that he looked forward to a greater Japanese role in the international political arena, said Mr Kaifu's spokesman Sadaaki Numata.

Thailand supports Japan's role in contributing to the Cambodian peace process and wants to see a settlement along the framework drafted by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

Both sides also underscored the importance of Thai-Japanese cooperation to help attain a Cambodian solution.

Mr Kaifu yesterday invited Mr Anan to visit Japan.

The Japanese spokesman quoted Mr Anan as saying that he looked forward to going to Japan "in a businesslike manner."

In a speech at a dinner hosted by the Premier to honour Mr Kaifu yesterday, Mr Anan said the Government and Thai people were looking forward to giving the Japanese Emperor and Empress a warm welcome in the near future.

Thai and Japanese palace officials are working on the schedule for the royal visit.

Mr Anan said in his speech he was confident that political changes in Thailand would not pose obstacles to further development of its ties with Japan.

He praised Japan's increasingly active role in international politics, especially its participation in the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

Japan's endeavours in this regard were worthy of support, he said.

"Thailand welcomes Japan's participation in our efforts to promote regional peace and economic prosperity," he added.

Mr Anan said Japan was one of ASEAN's major dialogue partners and a member of the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Council), which would be an economic group of great importance in the next century.

Therefore, he said, "Japan will have to assume an increasingly greater economic and political role for peace and economic and political role for peace and economic progress, not only in Asia and the Pacific but also in other areas of the world."

During their meeting at Government House yesterday, Mr Anan reassured Japan of the continuity of Thailand's policy, as well as the steps being taken towards restoration of full democracy.

Japan's NHK television, in its report monitored in Bangkok last night, said Mr Kaifu asked Mr Anan when an elected government would be reinstalled in Thailand.

According to Mr Kaifu's spokesman, the Thai Prime Minister gave "a detailed, lengthy" explanation of the steps towards democracy which included the promulgation of a new constitution and a promise of general elections by next April at the latest.

Mr Anan reassured Mr Kaifu of the continuity of the Thai policy which emphasised economic development based on active participation by the private sector and trade liberalisation.

Mr Kaifu said he was pleased to learn that there were no fundamental changes as a result of the change of government and hoped for the further progress of Thailand according to PM's [prime minister's] Secretary-General Sathaphon Kawitanon.

Mr Kaiful also reassured Thailand that Japan's basic policy towards Thailand remained the same.

In a bid to widen bilateral relations, Mr Kaifu proposed the holding of regular consultations between the foreign ministers of the two countries, as against the present format at deputy ministers' level, the Japanese spokesman said.

Regarding the Cambodian peace process, Mr Anan was quoted as saying that he intended "to work closely with Japan for peace."

Last June, Japan hosted an inter-Cambodian meeting at the initiative of former Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan.

Mr Kaifu will today meet with leaders of the three Cambodian resistance factions, namely Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Prime Minister Son Sann and Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan.

The Japanese spokesman stressed that the meeting would coincide with the first day of a ceasefire which the warring factions agreed to.

The United Nations, France and Indonesia called for a ceasefire to be in place in Cambodia from today until the end of the next round of peace talks in Jakarta tentatively scheduled for late May.

Mr Sathaphon said Mr Kaifu told Mr Anan Japan was ready to participate in efforts to rehabilitate the country if the conflict was resolved.

Mr Kaifu also explained Japan's role in the Gulf War to Mr Anan.

On the still unresolved territorial dispute between Japan and the Soviet Union, Mr Anan reportedly said he understood the issue and looked forward to an early solution to the problem.

Meets Khmer Resistance Leaders

BK0105140691 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu held talks with leaders of the three Khmer resistance factions—Son Sann, leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front; Khieu Samphan, Khmer Rouge leader; and Prince Norodom Ranariddh, representative of Prince Norodom Sihanouk's faction. The meeting took place earlier at the Hilton Hotel. The main topic planned for today's discussion was the settlement of the Cambodian conflict to end the fighting which has lasted for over 10 years.

Before attending the meeting with the Japanese prime minister, Prince Norodom Ranariddh said that his side still wants all parties concerned to exercise patience and restraint in the cease-fire in order to create a good political atmosphere. Son Sann said that the main details to be discussed tonight would be the cease-fire in Cambodia and the upcoming meeting in Jakarta. Commenting on the report that the cease-fire still had not taken place in Cambodia, Khieu Samphan said that the Khmer Rouge had become a victim. He hopes, however, that a cease-fire will take place. At the same time, he also wants to see peace and independence in Cambodia.

Urges Peace Efforts

OW0105145191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1430 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Bangkok, May 1 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Wednesday urged Cambodia's resistance coalition fighting the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government to strengthen peace efforts through mutual concessions.

Kaifu made the appeal at a meeting with leaders of the three- party guerrilla coalition in Bangkok where he was staying on the third leg of a five-nation southeast Asian tour, a Japanese spokesman said.

The meeting took place as the coalition accused Phnom Penh of breaking a voluntary ceasefire agreed to by all warring parties.

The Cambodians present at the meeting were Norodom Rannarit, son of titular coalition leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, former Nationalist Government head Son Sann, and Khieu Samphan, nominal leader of the communist Khmer Rouge.

Kaifu sought understanding and support for Japan's efforts to help end the 12-year civil war and urged the guerrilla leaders to "faithfully" enforce the ceasefire, the spokesman said.

Kaifu said he views the ceasefire accord as a move in the right direction and called on them to step up the peace process which he said was in a final stage "in the spirit of mutual concessions."

The coalition leaders thanked Japan for its peace efforts, especially referring to informal talks in Tokyo last week with Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Phnom Penh government, the spokesman said.

They stressed the need for the Phnom Penh government to accept a U.N. peace plan in its entirety.

Son Sann was quoted as saying Phnom Penh troops attacked guerrilla forces earlier in the day despite the ceasefire accord.

It would have been the first truce since Vietnam invaded Cambodia in late 1978 and installed the present Phnom Penh government.

But Son Sann expressed strong hopes that Japan's peace efforts will succeed.

Khieu Samphan asked Japan to persuade the Phnom Penh government to accept the U.N. peace plan, the Japanese spokesman said.

Kaifu said he plans to send Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama to Vietnam shortly for talks with Vietnamese leaders on the U.N. peace plan and the Japanese peace initiative.

Ranariddh expressed the total support of his faction for the Japanese peace efforts and offered to cooperate in bringing about a lasting peace.

Japan and the coalition leaders agreed to keep in contact to spur the peace process, the spokesman said.

He characterized the 50-minute meeting as important in the sense that Japan's prime minister made a direct appeal to honor a ceasefire and for stepped-up peace efforts.

The ceasefire had been proposed by Indonesia and France, both taking leadership in the Cambodian peace process, and U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

It was intended to produce a favorable climate for a meeting of representatives of all combatants expected in Jakarta this month.

The mood shared by both sides until two years ago was that the conflict would have to be settled by military force, a Japanese Foreign Ministry source said.

But the recent emphasis on a negotiated political settlement has made it easier to reach a ceasefire agreement, the source said.

Japan's peace initiative includes informal proposals to supplement the peace plan worked out by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

The proposals, including measures to ensure prevention of genocide as committed by the Khmer Rouge during its rule in the late 1970s, are intended as a catalyst for peace talks stalled by the Phnom Penh government's demands for revisions to the peace plan, the source said.

The demands include assurances to forestall a return to power of the Khmer Rouge, the most powerful militarily of the three resistance groups.

The U.N. peace plan calls for a ceasefire, disarmament of troops, and free elections under the supervision of the world body.

Before the meeting the coalition leaders, Kaifu had an audience with Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

Bhumibol told Kaifu that he is looking forward to the visit by Japan's Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko this fall.

On Tuesday, Kaifu conferred with caretaker Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, whose administration was installed in March after the February 23 coup toppled the elected government of Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan.

Kaifu will return home Monday after visiting Singapore and the Philippines. He earlier visited Malaysia and Brunei.

Paper Urges Japan To 'Refocus' Aid Policies

BK0105013591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 May 91 p 4

[Editorial: "Time for Japan To Refocus Aid Policy"]

[Text] Among all of the world's major powers with which Thailand has to deal in international commerce and diplomacy, Japan occupies a unique position. For a start, bilateral Thai-Japanese relations are especially deep-rooted, with their influence felt in almost all sectors of Thai society. The traditional Japanese perception of Thailand as a "frontline" state whose well-being has a direct bearing on Japan's enormous economic stakes in ASEAN has led to a massive infusion of Japanese concessionary financing for this country since the mid-1970's. And now that the regional confrontation has given way to a new optimism of peaceful coexistence and greater economic interaction, Tokyo regards Thailand as a centre for both the capitalist and socialist countries in Southeast Asia.

While other world powers such as the United States and European Community openly condemned the February 23 coup d'etat here, the reaction from Tokyo was relatively muted. Those who understand and are supportive of Japan can argue that this is a reflection of Japanese pragmatism. To the Japanese officials, the recent military takeover might amount to nothing more than a change of power at the top. To a people summarily, though perhaps unfairly, characterised by others as an economic animal, questions of democracy and human rights may play second fiddle to the conduct of trade and investment. Promises heard in Bangkok about a speedy return to an elected civilian government might have also been reassuring to Tokyo. But sceptics can also blame the Japanese leadership for being insensitive to the recent political changes here. It would, for instance, be highly unlikely that the head of government of a Western democracy would visit a country where martial law remained in force.

Be that as it may, the pledge given yesterday by the visiting Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to continue Japanese economic assistance for Thailand was welcome news. Unlike the proportionately-small amount of about 17 million US dollars in military and economic aid suspended by Washington as a result of the coup, the newest package of Japanese yen loans worth some 480 million US dollars that was approved prior to Mr Kaifu's departure on his current ASEAN trip was far more significant to Thailand. Indeed, despite the shortcomings and elements of conditionality attached to these yen credits, the overall Japanese concessionary financing over the last 15 years has played a crucial role in supporting the creation of various infrastructural facilities in this country.

As Japan looks set to play a more active international political role, it may be opportune for this world economic power to take a fresh look at its economic role, particularly insofar as its official development assistance (ODA) is concerned. While the domestic conditions may differ from one recipient country to another, there appears to be a strong case to reassess the thrust of Japanese ODA for Thailand. To date, the main orientation of Japanese soft loans has been geared at assisting in the provision of what could be described in technological jargon as "hardware"—physical infrastructures such as airports, seaports, highways, dams and telecommunications. The time has come for a re-orientation towards assistance in the field of "software"—areas such as human-resources development, public health, vocational education that could help this country produce more technicians and engineers, environmental improvement and the improvement of the overall quality of life.

Notwithstanding the long-standing criticism that Japanese soft loans have aggravated this country's trade deficit with Japan through imports of Japanese products and equipment, there is also little dispute that basic infrastructures funded by low-interest yen credits have played a part behind Thailand's impressive economic growth in the recent years. But high growth has also generated a string of problems such as widening income disparity, serious environmental deterioration and shortage of skilled manpower. Thailand's development efforts could be rendered meaningless in the long run unless these problems are rectified. As a dominant economic partner which enjoys a uniquely special relationship with Thailand, Japanese economic assistance would also be incomplete unless it takes on a new emphasis to help correct some of the wrongs the very assistance programme has created.

May Day Takes Second Place to Kaifu Visit

BK0105023991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 1 May 91 p A10

[Editorial: "Labour in the Doldrums"]

[Text] May Day celebrations in Thailand today will be a low-key event as many labour leaders say they have nothing special to celebrate. Instead of celebrating, some labour leaders intend to mark the occasion by urging the prime minister to lift martial law and end the ban on political gatherings.

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun himself may be too busy playing host to Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to listen to their grievances, much less to attend any of the May Day rallies. And even the Thai press seems more interested in Kaifu and his plan to organize a ceasefire in Cambodia than in the dispirited labour movement.

On April 15, after the National Assembly passed two bills to disband all the state enterprise unions, Prime Minister Anan made a passionate pledge to respect state enterprise employees' right to organize for collective bargaining with the management. More importantly he also promised to promote the labour movement and help workers in the private sector defend their rights against exploitation by employers.

After his Japanese guest leaves town tomorrow, Premier Anan will have more time and, perhaps, will be able to spare a moment to think about how to fulfil his pledge.

Lifting martial law is no problem, as he has already promised to do it in the first week of May. When martial law ends, the ban on political gatherings also expires. After that the premier will certainly get an earful about how his administration has yet to do anything for labour and how the national Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] has hurt the labour movement.

One of the main grievances concerns the NPKC's Decree 54, issued on March 7, which bars outsiders from direct involvement in a labour union. The decree requires all the labour unions to register their "advisers" with the Labour Department. Non-advisers who step in to help a labour union during a dispute are liable to a fine of up to Bt20,000 [Baht] or a jail term of one year.

Labour unionists condemn this law as an authoritarian move to isolate the labour unions from outside help, especially from academics who tend to be sympathetic with the workers. The unionists have a good point.

In the past the labour unions relied on advice and technical assistance of outsiders to develop their organizations and train their members on collective bargaining and labour rights under the Labour Relations Act of 1975. They were also assisted by leaders of state enterprise unions whose organizations tended to be more streamlined and better funded. Without the state enterprise unions, unionists in the private sector are now on their own. Decree 54 will certainly further isolate them from their outside supporters.

Can the Labour Department fill the void and help the needy labour unions? Maybe not. The department already has its hands full in trying to enforce the official minimum wage rate, which many employers still refuse to obey, and inspecting factories to see whether the working conditions are up to the safety standards.

A ceasefire in Cambodia may increase security on the Thai-Cambodian border. Assisting Premier Kaifu to play an active role; in the reconstruction of Cambodia may be good politics for Thailand, which is quite concerned about its national image following the Feb 23 coup.

However, promoting a healthy and responsible labour movement is also necessary for national security and democratization. Leaving the labour movement in the doldrums will expose a large number of Thai workers to endless exploitation by unscrupulous employers. Such exploitation goes against the pledge of Premier Anan to take care of the workers.

If the premier really cares about the workers, he should consider abolishing Decree 54 and replacing it with new measures that are genuinely designed to promote the labour movement, instead of isolating the labour unions from outside help.

Technical Committee To Survey Burmese Border

Permanent Demarcation Line Proposed

BK0105021591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 May 91 p 3

[Text] Mae Sot, Tak—A technical committee to conduct a survey and study for the setting up of permanent Thai-Burmese demarcation posts in Mae Sot District will be established soon.

Directorate of Joint Operations assistant director Maj-Gen Sanan Khachonklam said on Monday that this is in line with an agreement reached at a meeting of the

Regional Thai-Burmese Border Joint Coordination Committee in Burma last August.

The committee will be set up by the Thai-Burmese Border Committee chaired by the Foreign Minister.

A Third Army source said a proposal for the establishment of the permanent demarcation line was forwarded to the Army in late 1989.

Under the proposal, the demarcation posts are to be erected 10 kilometres to the north from the Mae Sot-Myawaddi border crossing point

Army Probes Removal of Border Markers

BK0105020591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 May 91 p 1

[Text] Mae Hong Son—The northern military authority is investigating the illegal moving of demarcation posts on the Thai-Burmese border back into Thailand's area, a Third Army source said.

The source said the incident took place in an area adjacent to a forest plot for which Sirin Technology Company has been granted a logging concession by the Burmese Government.

The group responsible for the removal of the demarcation markers at Ban Huai Ton Nun to Ban Na Hua Laem in Khun Yuam District wants to expand its logging concession for personal benefits, the source said.

The group wants to cut trees inside Thailand and claims they are in Burma, the source added.

Border Patrol police were sent out to look for the missing markers which are beleived to have been moved some five kilometres back inside Thailand

Cabinet Approves 460.4 Billion Baht 1992 Budget

BK0105031591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 1 May 91 pp A1, A2

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved fiscal 1992 budget allocations for 13 ministries and other units, with the Defence and Education ministries receiving the biggest portions of the total budget of baht 460.4 billion.

The Defence allocation of baht 68.73 billion for the fiscal year between October 1991 and September 1992 marked an increase of 13.5 percent from a year earlier, while the Education Ministry allocation rose 10.6 percent, to baht 68.74 billion.

Budget Bureau chief Bodi Chunnanan said all the spending plans proposed by the ministries had to be cut except that for Defence, because the total had exceeded the total budget funding. He did not explain why the Defence budget had not been cut.

Bodi said in general the Budget Bureau gives priority to spending that ministries have committed themselves to, and added that rural development is not regarded as secondary to urban projects. For example, the government has set aside a budget for electrification in about 2,000 rural villages, he said.

He also disclosed that the Air Force has sought a baht 10-billion allocation to purchase a squadron of fighter planes but details of the plan are not yet available as the Air Force is selecting the type of aircraft and terms of payment. He said the plan will be feasible if payment terms are attractive.

Aside from the Defence and Education ministries, the Finance, Agriculture, Transport and Communications, Interior, and Public Health ministries also received large allocations for fiscal 1992.

The Budget Bureau also allocated baht 28.5 billion for carrying out special government policies. Under the "special policy" category, several agencies will be given a total of baht 6 billion to finance the establishment of a farm fund to intervene in the market to assist farmers.

The baht 6-billion allocation represents 1.3 percent of total expenditure, less than the 2 percent target earmarked earlier for the purpose. A big portion of the "special policy" budget was also devoted to schemes planned for less developed provinces and a plan to raise government officials' salaries.

Another baht 6 billion is earmarked for supporting farm prices, development of rural areas, towns, infrastructure, housing, and water supply sources. Environmenttal protection and social development schemes will also be funded by this budget.

Bodi also said the government has allocated baht 35-million for officials of the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC]. NPKC chairman Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong receives a monthly salary of baht 36,100 like the prime minister, ile Sunthon's deputies get about baht 35,000 each. The baht 35-million budget will be enough for about five months, after which the NPKC is expected to disband.

How the 1992 budget is allocated:

Ministry	'91 Budget (Million Baht)	'92 Budget (Million Baht)	Change (Million Baht)	Change (Percent)
Central Fund	39,510.2	40,187.2	+667.0	+1.7
PM's Office	3,789.4	4,348.9	+559.5	+14.8
Defence	60,575.2	68,735.2	+8,160.0	+13.5
Finance	61,005.1	62,642.8	+1,641.7	+2.7
Foreign Affairs	2,131.6	2,413.8	+282.2	+13.2

How the 1992 budget is allocated: (Continued)

Ministry	'91 Budget (Million Baht)	'92 Budget (Million Baht)	Change (Million Baht)	Change (Percent)
Agriculture	31,420.6	35,442.0	+4,021.4	+12.8
Communications	20,729.4	25,667.6	+4,938.2	+23.8
Commerce	1,238.9	2,954.2	+1,715.3	+138.5
Interior	51,801.4	60,110.7	+8,309.3	+16.0
Justice	1,230.2	1,351.1	+120.9	+9.8
Science	5,703.9	6,500.3	+796.4	+14.0
Education	62,158.5	68,741.4	+6,582.9	+10.6
Public Health	20,568.6	23,243.2	+2,674.6	+13.0
Industry	1,970.7	2,280.5	+309.8	+15.7
University Affairs	12,220.6	15,049.8	+2,829.2	+23.2
Independent Agencies	2,113.5	2,234.0	+120.5	+5.7
State Enterprises	8,803.8	9,464.7	+660.9	+7.5
Revolving Capital	528.4	528.6	+0.2	+0.0
Special Policies	—	28,500.0	+28,500.0	+100.0
Total:	387,500.0	460,400.0	+72,900.0	+18.8

The overall budget of baht 460 billion has three major portions. The first portion of baht 135.69 billion is for investment, while the second portion of baht 296.77 billion is designed for fixed expenditure. The last portion of baht 27.93 billion is for loan repayment.

Finance Ministry Reports Six Month Revenues

BK0105003891 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] The Finance Ministry has reported on revenues and expenditures during the first six months of the 1991 fiscal year from October 1990 to March 1991, as follows:

The government's revenues totaled 201,578 million baht and its expenditures totaled 177,591 million baht, 23,986 million baht less than the revenues.

The Customs Department's revenues during the period amounted to 50,391 million baht, 7,666 million baht more than the same period in the previous year, and 7,546 million baht more than target.

The Excise Department collected 4,257.7 million baht in revenues during the period, 7,009 million baht more than the same period in the previous year, and 7,445 million baht more than target.

The Revenue Department's revenues totaled 92,345 million baht, 19,764 million baht more than the same period in the previous year, and 22,378 million baht more than target.

Vietnam

Minister: Over 100 Ex-Officials Held in Camps

BK0105072491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0534 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Hanoi, May 1 (AFP)—More than 100 former South Vietnamese officials are still being held in Vietnamese reeducation camps, 16 years after the fall of Saigon, Interior Minister Mai Chi Tho was quoted Wednesday as saying.

In an interview with the DAI DOAN KET newspaper, Mr. Tho said the former officials of the ousted South Vietnamese Government were "people who had committed numerous crimes and who obstinately refused to reform."

Mr. Tho, a member of the Vietnamese Communist Party Politburo, said reeducation of former Saigon officials had been prolonged due to the border wars with China in 1979 and with Cambodia's Khmer Rouge.

Mr. Tho is the younger brother of the late Le Duc Tho, who negotiated the 1973 Paris accords with the United States that led to the end of the Vietnam war.

Some 500,000 Saigon soldiers and officials were arrested and sent to reeducation camps following Hanoi's victory over the U.S.-backed south in April 1975.

"No capital punishment was inflicted on the detainees although some of them committed bloody crimes," the interior minister said, adding that those released were not discriminated against and were allowed to emigrate if they desired.

As a condition for normalization of ties with Hanoi, Washington has demanded the release of all former Saigon detainees, a settlement to the Cambodian civil war and resolution of the issue of the more than 2,000 American servicemen missing in action during the Vietnam War.

Hanoi in 1987 and 1988 released large numbers of political prisoners, including several generals and former ministers, from reeducation camps.

Vietnamese authorities indicated two weeks ago that the release of those still detained depended on Washington's attitude. Hanoi has asked Washington to pledge not to use the former detainees, once released, for purposes hostile to Vietnam.

The United States has maintained an economic embargo against Vietnam since 1975, which contributes to the country's economic crisis.

Program Views Cambodian Cease-Fire Proposal

BK2904124891 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 29 Apr 91

["Review of public opinion" program]

[Text] Right after the proposal for the cease-fire in Cambodia was released, all Cambodian factions actively responded to it. In its statement, the Phnom Penh Government supported this proposal, considering it a significant act for the process of peace in Cambodia. Mr. Khieu Samphan, head of the Khmer Rouge said that his faction accepted this proposal.

Earlier the two groups of Son Sann and Sihanouk issued a statement accepting the voluntary cease-fire in Cambodia. In its statement, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry welcomed this proposal. The statement said that the cease-fire in Cambodia will be an important and practical contribution to the early achievement of an over-all just and fair political solution to the Cambodian issue. In short, the proposal for a cease-fire in Cambodia was accepted by all Cambodian factions and it is welcomed by public opinion. This reaction is an initial step to create a favorable atmosphere for resolving the internal affairs of Cambodia and contribute to achieving a solution to the Cambodian issue. However, to carry out the cease-fire and end the war forever, all countries should stop their arms supply to all Cambodian factions under the Soviet-U.S. initiative and Vietnam's proposal as expounded in her previous statements.

The two cochairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] and the UN Secretary General called on all Cambodian groups to observe the ceasefire as from 1 May and prolong it, at least, to the upcoming meeting of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia [SNC] to be convened in mid-May. So far, all Cambodian factions have accepted the SNC meeting. According to AFP, leaders of the three Cambodian factions have met with Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun. They agreed to take part in the SNC meeting to discuss the restoration of peace in Cambodia. The State of Cambodia has, for many occasions, called for this meeting of the SNC and now it is encouraging that all Cambodian factions have agreed to convene the SNC meeting.

This development will accelerate the process of the settlement of the Cambodian issue. However, to keep this tempo, the three opposing Cambodian factions should seriously carry out their statements on the cease-fire in Cambodia and place national interests and the Cambodian people above all individual interests to make the coming SNC meeting a success.

NHAN DAN Editorial Marks Holidays

BK0105072391 Hanoi VNA in English 0703 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 1—Marking the anniversaries of the International Labour Day (May 1st) and the liberation day of South Vietnam (April 30) the national paper NHAN DAN runs an editorial entitled "Socialism—Our Path."

The paper recalls that through nationwide discussions in preparation for the coming 7th national party congress, our entire party and people "unanimously reaffirm that socialism is an objective and the indispenseable path of advance of Vietnam, and that the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam is a factor for the victory of the Vietnamese revolution and the building of a strong and prosperous country along socialism."

NHAN DAN continues: "Liberating mankind from slavery, oppression and injustice is the long dream of the working people. The working class and all oppressed peoples the world over, through their miserable life and hard struggle, have realized that only socialism, not capitalism, can bring about man's emancipation."

The paper calls on all Vietnamese working people to promote the spirit of the International Labour Day to carry out the policies put forward by the party and govermment aimed at settling the urgent socio-economic problems. "Jobs, decent life, democracy and social equity are an imperative demand of the working class and the entire working people in Vietnam, and also a long-term objective together with political stability and socio-econmic development," the paper concludes.

Further Reportage on Indian President's Visit

Nguyen Co Thach Calls Venkataraman

BK2804103691 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 26 April, Nguyen Co Thach, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs, paid a courtesy call to Indian President Venkataraman, who has been on an official friendship visit to Vietnam. Comrade Nguyen Co Thach warmly greeted the Indian president, his wife, and the other distinguished Indian guests whose visit to Vietnam reflected the profound sentiments of the Indian Government and people and the president himself toward the Vietnamese people. He expressed the hope that the president's visit would meet with fine success.

President Venkataraman reaffirmed the unwavering solidarity and support of the Indian Government and people for the Vietnamese people's national construction and defense.

Vo Chi Cong Accepts Invitation

BK2704092891 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] The Vietnamese president, Mr. Vo Chi Cong, has accepted India's invitation to visit New Delhi. The invitation was extended by the president, Mr. R. Venkataraman, during the farewell ceremony after successful completion of his Hanoi visit. The president arrived in the industrial capital of Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City, a short while ago for a two-day visit.

Mr. Venkataraman is leaving for Manila for a three-day visit to the Philippines tomorrow afternoon.

News Conference Held on Visit

BK2704054191 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Vietnamese Vice Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien and His Excellency Mehrotra, secretary in the Indian External Affairs Ministry, held a joint news conference yesterday evening at the government guest house in Hanoi to announce the results of the official friendship visit to Vietnam by Indian President Venkataraman. This news conference was attended by a large number of local and foreign newsmen in Hanoi.

Vice Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien and His Excellency Mehrotra joyfully made public the fine results of the official friendship visit to Vietnam by President Venkataraman, the second visit by an Indian president since 1959. This marked a turning point in the longstanding relations of friendly cooperation between the two peoples and governments.

The Indian president brushed aside all protocol and diplomatic jargon so he could talk to the Vietnamese leaders with words from deep within his heart. All the talks between President Venkataraman and Vietnamese Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong, Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi, and Communist Party of Vietnam General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh took place in a friendly atmosphere. They talked on a wide variety of topics concerning the comprehensive relations of friendship between Vietnam and India.

During the talks, the understanding between the two sides was enhanced visibly. The two sides unanimously reached a number of important agreements to increase the cooperation between the two countries:

1. As proposed by India and already approved by Vietnam, the two countries will set up an industrial estate with small and medium industries in Vietnam to absorb Vietnamese manpower.

2. The two sides agreed to set up buffalo and rice research centers in Vietnam. These two centers will establish sisterhood with their counterparts in India as part of their scientific and technological cooperation.

3. The two countries will formulate a protocol on cooperation in civil aviation. Vietnam will send a delegation to India to discuss this issue.

4. The two sides reached agreement in principle on banking cooperation. For this, India will open a branch of its state bank in Vietnam.

5. With their cultural cooperation already in place, the two countries will continue to sign a program for cultural exchange for the period 1991-95 under which India will reserve a number of scholarships in the name of Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first president, for Vietnamese students in India.

As a common practice by the Indian side, there will be no joint statement made public at the end of the Indian president's official friendship visit to Vietnam.

In addition to the above talks and agreements reached, the two countries' leaders also held extensive discussions over international issues and other matters of mutual concern. All the exchanges of views were friendly and very useful, reflective of the longstanding friendship between Vietnam and India. The question of regional security and the struggle for collective peace and prosperity in the region were also discussed. The two sides shared the view that in the current international juncture, the need to strengthen relations between Vietnam and India is of strategic significance.

His Excellency Mehrotra, secretary in the Indian External Affairs Ministry, also emphatically said that the Indian people have high respect and admiration for President Ho Chi Minh, the famous leader of the Vietnamese people, whose birth centennary India has just celebrated. The visiting Indian president paid a tribute to this great leader of the Vietnamese people. The Indian president's visit to Vietnam was aimed at further consolidating relations between the two countries. India and Vietnam should continue to increase their close relations, both in the international and bilateral areas. India has been and is providing assistance to Vietnam.

His Excellency Hehrotra also expressed his deep emotion over the sentiments reserved by the Vietnamese people for Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru as well as for President Venkataraman in his current official friendship visit to Vietnam.

At the news conference, Vice Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien and his Excellency Mehrotra answered some questions raised by newsmen, thus shedding more light on the fine results of the official friendship visit of President Venkataraman.

Today, the Indian Pesident and Mrs Venkataraman and other distinguished Indian guests will leave Hanoi for Ho Chi Minh City, the last leg of the president in his official friendship visit to Vietnam.

Concludes Hanoi Visit

BK2704103191 Hanoi VNA in English 0708 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 27—The Indian President and Mrs. R. Venkataraman left Hanoi this morning for Ho Chi Minh City for the final leg of their tour of Vietnam from April 24-28 at the invitation of State Council President Vo Chi Cong.

The farewell ceremony was held at the Chi Linh Square here this morning in the presence of President Vo Chi Cong, vice president of the State Council and chairman of the National Assembly, Le Quangdao; Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach; and other senior Vietnamese officials.

The distinguished Indian guests are scheduled to visit Ho Chi Minh City in one day before leaving for the Philippines.

Attends Ho Chi Minh City Banquet

BK2704163091 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] The president, now on a state visit to Vietnam, attended several functions in Ho Chi Minh City today, including the one organized by the Indian community there. Mr. Venkataraman also addressed the banquet hosted in his honor by the first secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party.

The Vietnamese foreign minister, Nguyen Co Thach, says Hanoi wants to normalize relations with the United States. But it is opposed to Washington's conditions linking this with the Cambodian issue. Talking to Indian newsmen accompanying the president, Mr. Co Thach expressed the hope that the proposed meeting of the Supreme National Council for Cambodia in Jakarta next month will lead to a settlement.

Attends 'Grand Reception'

BK2804034991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] On the evening of 27 April, Comrade Vo Tran Chi, secretary of Ho Chi Minh City's party committee, hosted a grand reception in honor of President and Mrs. Venkataraman and the other distinguished Indian guests on the occasion of their stopover in the city, a Voice of Vietnam correspondent in Ho Chi Minh City reported. Speaking at the reception, on behalf of the party organization and people of Ho Chi Minh City, Comrade Vo Tran Chi expressed the city's honor of receiving the Indian president and his wife. Praising President Venkataraman as a highly experienced national leader, a man of culture, and a great friend of the Vietnamese people, Comrade Vo Tran Chi stressed: Your visit to Vietnam including Ho Chi Minh City once again strongly proves the age-old solidarity between Vietnam and India and marks a new step of development in the multifaceted cooperation and the traditional solidarity and friendship between the two countries and peoples.

In his reply, President Venkataraman thanked the Vietnamese Government and people as well as Ho Chi Minh City for their hearty welcome. He praised the city for being not only creative and dynamic in economic development but also a melting pot of many shades of Vietnamese culture. In the struggle for national liberation, the city itself made numerous contributions and sacrifices. He wished the people of Ho Chi Minh City much success in building and developing the city.

The reception took place in an atmopshere permeated with warm solidarity and friendship. This morning, President Venkataraman and his wife left Ho Chi Minh City, successfully concluding their visit to Vietnam.

Communique Released on Visit

WA3004185091 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 28 Apr 91

["Communique" on Indian President Venkataraman's 24-28 April 1991 official friendship visit to Vietnam]

[Text] At the invitation of the Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the SRV Council of State Chairman, His Excellency Ramaswamy Venkataraman, president of the Republic of India, paid an official friendship visit to Vietnam from 24-28 April 1991. He was accompanied by Mrs. Janaki Venkataraman; His Excellency Murari, President Venkataraman's secretary; His Excellency Mehrotra, secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs; His Excellency Sharman, Indian ambassador to Vietnam; His Excellency Dabi Mehta, head of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of External Affairs; His Excellency Rear Admiral Ram Das, President Venkataraman's military secretary; and His Excellency Himachai Som, head of the Southern Department of the Ministry of External Affairs.

President and Mrs. Venkataraman and the other Indian guests paid a tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and visited his residence and office, toured the Ho Chi Minh museum, and planted a commemorative tree in the garden next to the mausoleum.

The People's Committee of Hanoi held a grand meeting to welcome President and Mrs. Venkataraman.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, cordially received President Venkataraman.

Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong had talks with President Venkataraman on relations between the two countries as well as international and regional issues of mutual concern.

Party Central Committee Adviser Pham Van Dong visited President Venkataraman. Council of Minsiters Chairman Do Muoi and Council of Ministers Vice Chairman and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach also paid a courtesy call on the president.

Council of State Vice Chairman and National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao joined President Venkataraman in many activities.

During the talks and meetings between President Venkataraman and CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Central Committee General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh, Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong, and Council of Minsiters Chairman and Vice Chairman Do Muoi and Nguyen Co Thach, the two sides expressed satisfaction over the very fine development of the traditional relations of friendship and multifaceted cooperation between the two countries and underscored their determination to strengthen and increase the effectiveness of their bilateral cooperation in the interests of the two peoples and for the sake of peace, stability, and cooperation in the region.

The Vietnamese leaders and the Indian president reached a total identity of view over the many international and regional issues discussed and pointed out the desire of the two countries to maintain close cooperation and to join with other countries in the struggle for peace, friendship, and cooperation in Southeast Asia, South Asia, and the Asia-Pacific region and the rest of the world.

The two sides unanimously agreed that all solutions to the Cambodian issue should be based on respect for Cambodia's independence and sovereignty and the Cambodian people's right to decide their own internal affairs; the prevention of a return of the genocidal regime; and guarantees for a peaceful, independent, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia that has friendly relations with all nations.

The two sides expressed satisfaction over the fine results of President Venkataraman's visit to Vietnam, saying that it marked a new milestone in and contributed greatly to further strengthening the traditional relations of friendship and mutifaceted cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides expressed their desire and their determination to step up economic cooperation, particularly in the creation of joint ventures in certain areas of mutual concern. They stressed that a joint committee of the two countries will meet soon to discuss detailed matters regarding various areas of cooperation.

In order to boost economic and trade cooperation between the two countries, the Vietnamese Government agreed in principle to allow the Indian State Bank to open a branch in Vietnam.

The two sides also agreed on various matters ranging from the signing of an agreement on civil aviation to a program for cultural exchange between the two countries for the 1991-93 period.

Reponsible organs of the two countries will meet soon to discuss in detail the above matters.

The Indian side announced a decision of the Indian Government to help build in Vietnam an industrial estate with small and medium industries to create employment for Vietnamese workers and to apply new technologies. The Indian side affirmed its readiness to share its technical expertise and help Vietnam in economic development.

President Venkataraman expressed deep gratitude for the extremely warm and solemn reception that the Vietnamese people and government gave him, Mrs. Venkataraman, and other members of his delegation, a reception reflecting the friendly relations between the two countries.

President Venkataraman invited Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong to visit India. Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong thanked him for this and joyfully accept the invitation.

On behalf of the Indian Government, the president also renewed his invitation for Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi to visit India.

During their stay, President and Mrs. Venkataraman visited the Army Museum, a number of economic and cultural establishments and scenic spots in Hanoi, Halong Bay, and Ho Chi Minh City.

President and Mrs. Venkataraman left Ho Chi Minh City on the afternoon of 28 April, successfully winding up their official friendship visit to Vietnam.

Comrade Nguyen Viet Dung, general secretary of the Council of State; Comrade Vo Tran Chi, secretary of Ho Chi Minh City's party committee; leaders of the city's representatives of the local mass organizations gave a warm send-off to President Venkataraman and the other distinguished Indian guests.

NHAN DAN Editorial on Visit

BK2904113591 Hanoi Domestic Service
in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Excerpts from 28 April NHAN DAN editorial: "In the Interests of the Two Peoples of Vietnam and India, for the Sake of Peace, Security, and Regional Cooperation"]

[Text] The official friendship visit to our country by President and Mrs. Venkataraman has concluded successfully.

Our people received the leader of the Indian Government solemnly and with profound friendship and affection.

The talks between Nguyen Van Linh, secretary general of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the State Council, Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and our other leaders with President Venkataraman were held in an atmosphere of deep friendship, mutual understanding, and trust.

The two sides discussed the potentials and measures to further strengthen the united, friendship, and multifaceted cooperation between the two countries. We exchanged views and agreed on international and regional issues of mutual concern.

We are very happy to realize that in the past years the economic, trade, scientific, and technological cooperation between our two countries has had practical developments and brought forth good results.

Being deeply sympathetic with our people's difficulties, the brotherly Indians have been ready to share experiences and help us develop our industries, especially in the fields of agriculture, industrial production, science, technology, and cadre training.

In the international background of ever moving to closer cooperation, in the rapid industrial and communications development, Vietnam and India want to develop new cooperative fields. The mutual cooperative potentials, especially economically, are great and need to be further exploited.

To further accelerate the economic, commercial relations between the two countries, the two sides agreed on the establishment of joint venture enterprises in the fields of mutual concern, the opening of the Indian State Bank in Vietnam, the setting up of direct civil aviation service between the two countries, and the planning of cultural exchange programs for the 1991-1993 period.

The success of President Venkataraman's visit brings the traditional relations of friendship and the multi-faceted cooperation between Vietnam and India forward to a new step.

We honestly appreciate the Indian people and government for their strong unity and valuable support for Vietnam.

Editorial Says Visit 'Splendid' Success

BK2904073391 Hanoi VNA in English 0616 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 29—NHAN DAN in its editorial today says that President R. Venkataraman's recent Vietnam visit was a splendid success, making an important contribution to the further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, in the interests of the two peoples, and for the sake of peace, security and cooperation in the region.

The paper continues:

"The still-big potential of bilateral cooperation, especially in the economic field, should be well exploited. In order to accelerate the economic-commercial relations, the two sides have agreed to establish joint verture enterprises in the fields of mutual concern, to open a branch of the Indian National Bank in Vietnam, to set up a direct air link between the two countries, and sign a programme of cultural exchange in the 1991-93 period. These agreements, together with the recently signed documents such as the protocol on trade, the agreement on science and technology..., will certainly further strengthen the bilateral cooperation and help to carry out more effective cooperation in agriculture, cattle breeding, atomic energy, natural gas and oil surveys, aviation, exchange of goods and culture...."

The paper goes on:

"Persisting in the policy of peace, friendship and broad cooperation with all countries in the world on the basis of respect for each other's sovereignty, equality and mutual interests, Vietnam will do its best to join the countries concerned in seeking a peaceful solution to the Cambodia issue, thus contributing to building a Southeast Asia of peace, security, friendship and cooperation. Vietnam affirms its full support for the good will and efforts of India aimed at accelerating the cooperation within the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation as well as India's commitments to work for a political solution to guarantee the sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence and non-alignment status of Cambodia. The India-Vietnam cooperation is a model of the South-South cooperation and an important factor for peace, stability and cooperation in Asia and the Pacific."

Finance Minister Visits France 15-24 Apr

BK2904071891 Hanoi VNA in English 0611 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 28—Vietnamese Minister of Finance Hoang Quy visited France from April 15-24.

The minister had talks with Pierre Beregovoy, minister of economy, finance and the budget; Mrs. Edwige Avice, minister delegate attached to minister for external relations; Jean Marie Rausch, minister for external trade, and other senior officials. At those tlks, the two sides reaffirmed their determination to promote the bilateral cooperation in the fields of economy, finance and investment in the immediate future and years to come.

He also had contacts with French businessmen, bankers, financiers and investors. On April 24, Hoang Quy had a talk with more than 100 French entrepreneurs in Paris, who were briefed on Vietnam's economic renovation policy as well as areas in which French businessmen can invest.

Military Regions, Other Groups Hold Congresses

2d Military Region Congress

BK2604143391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Correspondent Le Thanh's Report on the first round of the 2d Military Region party organization congress]

[Text] The first round congress of the 2d Military Region party organization was held after 17 party organizations subordinate to the military region party committee had conducted their congresses to collect nearly 2,000 contributions to the seventh national party congress' draft documents.

Of the 180 delegates to this congress, 179 have been elected from among the congresses of delegates of party organizations subordinate to the military region party committee, as well as Comrade Doan Khue, Political Bureau member of Chief of Joint General Staff of the Vietnamese People's Army, who was nominated by the party central committee's military commission to attend and stand for election in the congress.

After three days of democratic, urgent, and scrupulous work, the delegates discussed the documents and clarified various issues, either unanimously agreeing on them or recommending them to higher level party congress for amendment and supplement.

The delegates to the 2d Military Region party organization congress basically agreed to the draft views on the draft platform for socialist construction in the transition. Against the complex international and domestic background, they said it is essential for the party chosen by our Uncle Ho to formulate a platform that manifests the orientation and aims of all our party members, people, and troops.

Most of the delegates' 15 contributions focused on Chapters 1 and 4, dealing with the arrangement of chapters and paragraphs, and modifying, adding, or omitting words and sentences, or rewording for clarification.

Some delegates proposed to add the phrase: defeat the enemy's war of aggression along the border; following the words: bases of socialism; to the part on the Vietnamese revolution's great victories in Chapter 1. The last portion of that sentence will then read as follows: Gradually establish the new relations of production, build the material and technical bases of socialism, defeat the enemy's war of aggression along the border, firmly defend the homeland and fulfill international obligations.

For the part on experience in the Vietnamese revolution there were suggestions to add or change words, rewriting to reduce the number of lessons or adding a sixth one saying: All lines, positions and policies of the party must stem from realities and observe the objective law.

The congress unanimously agreed on the proposal for dividing chapter four into two separate ones: one on national defense and security and the other on foreign policy, as these major issues should be clarified in order to directly shape the implementation of the tasks in the future.

On the practicality and desire of developing the economy, culture, and society of the midlands and mountainous regions, the delegates to the 2d Military Region party organization congress basically concurred with the draft document. They also analyzed and emphasized some issues or suggested that the party should have proper invesment policies for three economic programs, especially on the grain and food program, and that the party should formulate separate policies and measures for the mountainous regions and tribal people.

Comrade Le Khac Tinh, the delegate of the military region's political department, specified:

[Begin Tinh recording] After assessing the socioeconomic situation in the draft platform, the party Central Committee identified two causes: I agree with the objective historical cause and consequences of many years of war. As for the subjective cause, the party Central Committee asserts that this is the main cause saying that we modelled socialism along dogmatic, stereotypical, subjective and willful lines. This is not satisfactory. We should analyze the causes more deeply and face the truth as a communist, which means that we must identify these causes. I, for one, contend that it is necessary to assert that we have weaknesses and shortcomings in ideology, organization and cadre tasks. Although these are mentioned in the political report, I think what has been said is still too general. The reason is that we have not paid adequate and proper attention to the training, organization, and placement of cadres. In fact, over the years, not only have high ranking party and state cadres been transferred from one ministry to another, some comrades have been ministers several times over though they have no academic standing or degree. This is theoretically and ideologically backward.

The sixth party congress resolution also stipulated that we have not emphasized the tasks of research and summarizing. As a result, dogmatism, subjectivism and willfulness are inevitable. I therefore suggest that the reasons for these be more deeply analyzed.

As for major policies and measures, I concur with the policy on capital. However, the usage of funds is a question with which the state should be most concerned. It should take strict measures to manage and use funds and not lose them as they were recently due to embezzlement by some cadres, making our people suffer and country poorer. [end recording]

National defense and security has been covered relatively adequately in the draft political report. The delegates focused on evaluating the quality of the Armed Forces, the livelihood of active cadres and combatants and their rear services. The delegates also analyzed and assessed the morality of the people's public security force in assuring national security.

Many delegates said it was necessary to gradually standardize and modernize in building the Army of the future.

Comrade Duong Ngoc Nang, a delegate of the military region headquarters staff, suggested the building of the national defense industry to gradually meet its requirments and tasks be determined in the political report. He said:

[Begin Nang recording] We have had many achievements in national defense in the past, especially Resolution No. 02 of the Political Bureau on building provinces and cities into firm defense areas. We have made much progress in implementing party leadership management over national defense. Provincial party committee secretaries have become secretaries of the committee's military commissions, thus enabling local military tasks to be carried out. However, there has been one thing we have not been able to do—that of building a national defense industry. Although we have gone through four five-year plans, our national defense industry is still too modest. We should think about investing in the industry. We certainly have the capability to build our own national defense industry to gradually meet the combat requirements of our army. [end recording]

Comrade Dinh Van Tuyet of B-26 Group from Lai Chau questioned the assesment of the national defense task in the draft political report and made this petition:

[Begin Tuyet recording] On national defense and security, we have not reached a consensus on the assesment in the draft at primary level congresses because it does not correctly reflect the past. The draft political report says that there is a rather large force of reservists for mobilization. [Passage indistinct] because in fact, this is a new duty of strategic significance. Some comrades believe this duty does not exist.

First we are a poor country. Moreover, our policies and regulations for mobilization have not been set up. Only some points have been included in the mandatory military service regulations. We suggest this issue be reassessed. Second, we should consider and promptly promulgate regulations, laws, and policies to guarantee the mobilization task. [end recording]

On the last day of the 2d Military Region party organization congress, the delegates discussed the draft documents on party development and amended party statutes. The congress voted and proposed that the congress at the next level study and publish party chapter activities in private factories and study how political officers and youth union commanders can be retrained for the Army.

The congress also elected 12 official delegates and one alternate delegate to the all-army party congress.

3d Military Region Congress, Part 1

BK3004074991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Part 1 of report by Correspondent Khanh Toan on the first round party organization congress of the 3d Military Region which closed "recently"—portions recorded]

[Summary] "The 3d Military Region, which encompasses the entire Red River Delta, recently held its first round party organization congress to contribute views on various documents to be presented at the seventh party congress and to choose delegates to attend the all-army party organization congress."

In preparation for the first round party organization congress, right from the pre-Tet days, 145 grass-roots party organizations held discussions for party and nonparty members to contribute views on various party documents.

"At the first round party organization congress, Comrade Nguyen Duc Thanh, commander of the Co To Island garrison under the responsibility of Group H-42, and other delegates held that the making public by our party of the draft political platform for national construction and defense at this time is correct and necessary. It is correct because despite the current international situation when a number of our fraternal parties are suffering temporary setbacks in maintaining their rule over the administration to carry on the socialist revolution, mankind will, as dictated by the law of inevitability, definitely be able to advance toward a socialist society—the path already chosen by us."

Realities in the past few months of the all-people and all-party movement to contribute views on the party's platform have shown the reactionaries and opportunists that "there is no room for political pluralism and the system of multi-opposition parties to exist and develop in this country."

We should continue to fix the course for socialist economic development. However, we should develop the economic potential of each individual, each house, and each locality in order to create abundant material foundations for the entire society. Meanwhile, we should leave our door wide open to welcome multilateral economic relations with all nations in the world. At the same time, we should not relax the principles of national independence and socialism.

Comrade Hoa Thuong, a delegate from the 319th Corporation, aired his views:

[Begin Hoa Thuong recording] "Through its state management system from the central down to grass-roots levels, the party should strive to get hold of the economic leadership right if it is to successfully implement its economic strategy." As for the question of opening the country to foreign economic investions, "we should promote foreign cooperations and enterprises to invest their money and engage in joint ventures but this should not be done at any cost. In opening our doors, we should depend on our capabilities to maintain political and social security and territorial integrity. It would be unacceptable for us to give up our independence and sovereignty in exchange for foreign economic investment." [end recording]

Comrade Le Tran Tan, secretary of the Van Chanh defense machineworks, pointed out the need for party members to acquire some economic knowledge in order to help manage the state economically.

The party organization congress of the 3d Military Region spent a great deal of time discussing the orientions and tasks of national defense and security as outlined in various party documents. Delegates shared the view that it is necessary to get rid of vague ideas about class struggle at a time when reactionary forces are trying to do away with socialism and to seize the party's leadership role in order to steer the world back to a capitalist regime. "Vague ideas about the concepts of class struggle amount to committing suicide and giving oneself up to hostile forces. Faced with the current situation, it is all the more necessary for the party to intensify their centralized and comprehensively unified leadership over the People's Armed Forces—including the Army and the Public Security Force—in order to firmly protect the socialist regime, the party, and the socialist construction of our people."

In the same vein, Cormade Nguyen Luan, delegate from the Military Region Headquarters said:

[Begin Nguyen Luan recording] "First, as for the part dealing with national defense and security in Chapter 4, I propose that the part on national defense and security should be separated from the part on foreign policy because they involve different matters. Second, I propose that we readjust and supplement this platform in order to bring it up the level of a historic document because it is to have a long-term effect, encompassing at least a few dozen years, and it involves the question of life and death of the party and the socialist Vietnamese fatherland. Third, I would like to say that the national defense task should be clearly defined as one of the two fundamental tasks of the transitional period." [end recording]

3d Military Region Congress, Part 2

BK3004141191 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 10 Apr 91

["Part Two" of Correspondent Khanh Toan's Report on the First Round Party Congress of 3d Military Region Party Organization—portions recorded]

[Summary] As leaders experienced in the revolutionary war who "are commanding units in charge of the defense of an important area of the country in the Red River Delta." The delegates to the first round party congress of the 3d military region fully understand that the military line of "combining the economy with national defense in all social activities is an extremely important condition for ensuring the country's constant preparedness to defeat all aggressors and for asserting the firmness of the socialist regime in our country."

Many delegates stressed the responsibility of party committees for guiding some cadres "in the formulation and implementation of policies aimed at overcoming the outstanding problems of 30 years of national liberation war and 15 years of fulfiling national defense and international obligations."

With such a thought, Comrade Nguyen Quang Khai, a delegate of the B-50 Group party organization said:

[Begin Khai recording] I think that national defense and security should be oriented comprehensively for the long term, based on the people and combined with the economy. The Armed Forces must be built and composed of three categories of troops—the regular force, the reserve mobilization force, and the militia and self-defense forces. They must be placed under the party leadership and be modernized step by step to truly serve as a core for the people's war for national defense. I suggest that "the draft political platform should be amended and supplemented to bring this part up to par for the strategic position of the task of defending territorial integrity, sovereignty, and national security." [end recording]

When debating the party development report, many delegates wholeheartedly "asserted the party's great successes in the 1945 August uprising and during the two wars against France and the United States and the defense of the country along the two border areas."

They also asserted the correct stand and clearsighted decision of the party Central Committee at its 8th plenum to resolutely eliminate opportunistic elements and to protect the correct renovation line and unity of the party.

Also proceeding from the revolutionary realities, many delegates voiced "their worry over the evils of corruption, privileges, and prerogatives in the leading machinery of the party and state" which are eroding social ethics. However, they said that this is not the reason for rejecting all the initial achievements of the renovation process and the party leadership because of some shortcomings of the party. In this connection, Comrade Ngo Tai, a delegate of the logistical department party organization, said:

[Begin Tai recording] "I for one think that first of all we must consolidate the solidarity bloc uniformly from the center down to grassroots levels." We must resolutely struggle to eliminate step by step the evils of privileges and prerogatives within the party and get rid of degenerate and deviant party members in order to improve the party image and leadership through a judiciary state in accordance with a perfect legal system. Second, the Ho

Chi Minh communist youth union must be well cared for so that it can truly be a reserve body of the party. [end recording]

"Also making suggestions for party development, Lieutenant General Pham Van Tra stressed the organization of cadre contigents to reflect both continuity and practical renovation."

After four days of urgent and scrupulous work, the 3d Military Region party organization congress concluded sucessfully and elected a delegation of 12 official members and one alternate member to the all-army congress.

Amidst an atmosphere of confidence and determination to renovate along the socialist line, Lieutenant General Do Manh Dao, deputy commander and party committee secretary of the military region, specified:

[Begin Dao recording] "Our congress reports to the party Central Committee and the party Central Committee's Central Commission that the entire party organization of the 3d Military Region has reached a high degree of identical views on all the party's draft documents. At present, the socialist revolution line is the path chosen by President Ho Chi Minh and our people. Being absolutely loyal to the revolutionary cause of the party and nation, and coordinating closely with the party committee and the administration and people in localities, we will carry on renovation in accordance with the seventh party congress resolution to build the 3d Military Region into a prosperous region and to firmly defend the territorial integrity of the country, the socialist region, the party and the peaceful labor and happy and plentiful life of our people." [end recording]

General Nguyen Quyet, party Central Committee secretary, who stood for election at the congress, highly appraised the delegates' views on the draft documents of the party and urged the delegates to strenuously build strong party bases and units, and mobilize cadres and combatants to make worthy contributions to national construction and defense.

4th Military Region Congress

BK3004132691 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 11 Apr 91

[Article by Station Correspondent Hai Hung]

[Text] Recently, the 4th Military Region held the first round of the fifth party congress to contribute opinions to the party draft documents of the seventh national party congress.

There were 196 representatives attending the congress. In four working days, 67 opinions were expressed to contribute to the five party draft documents. Every document was discussed and views were exchanged enthusiastically by the delegates.

Concerning the draft platform, the delegates said that this was the main document of the seventh party congress. The congress agreed that our party had enough conditions and contributing factors to issue a platform. One-hundred percent of the opinions expressed at the congress unanimously agreed that the introduction of a party platform at the moment is completely correct and desirable in order to choose the party's direction and for the people to advance in socialism.

The congress denounced the viewpoint of saying that our party has not had the proper conditions to issue a platform.

Chapter 4 of the draft platform on national defense, security, and foreign affairs policy was the chapter on which many opinions were expressed and analyzed profoundly. Nearly 94 percent of representatives suggested that the part on national defense and security in the platform should be placed in different chapters because national defense, security, and foreign affairs have different characteristics and working methods. All representatives agreed to suggest that the part on national defense duty should be rewritten because in the platform, that part was not up to the requirements of the national defense duty, and did not mention the direction and targets of combining economic construction with national defense and national defense with economic building. While enemies are concentrating on sabotaging our country, the duty of national defense construction is of the entire party and people to build a standardized and modern army and to guarantee that the army can defeat any enemy and firmly protect the fatherland.

National defense duty is a very important duty, but in the past, the party and the state have not paid enough attention to it. At present, most soldier families, war invalids, and fallen combatant families are facing economic difficulties. In the future, the party and the state should have appropriate measures to implement the soldiers' family policy.

The congress was concerned greatly about serious social degradation. Many representatives criticized past actions, saying that the party and the state had not invested enough in personnel strategy. The congress suggested that the party and state invest as much in education and health service as in personnel strategy. The state should set up sectors and industries to create jobs for the working people and for youths, especially for soldiers, when they cannot find a job after completing their military obligation. This should be the element that the party and state pay more attention to so the discharged soldiers can quickly adjust their lives.

The representatives directly expressed opinions, held discussions, correctly analyzed the real situation, and contributed many good opinions to the two draft documents of the party building report and the revised party regulation report. They totally agreed that the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] is the leader of Vietnam revolution in scoring great achievements in the past and only the CPV has the leading capacity to advance our country toward socialism.

The congress confirmed that renovation is the correct path of our party. Only with renovation will our national revolution overcome all difficulties to move up. But the party also needs to clarify the reality of the party at present. Anticorruption is an urgent issue at this stage, the party should organize the anticorruption work more strongly and more thoroughly from the central to the local levels. The cadre work in the past has had many shortcomings. The party has the responsibility of building a contingent of cadres of good quality and the ability to carry out the renovation duty of the party but not a contingent of cadres to serve the renovation undertaking as it was written in the report of party building.

Many opinions suggested a restoral of the political system and political officers in the Armed Forces to strengthen the leadership of the party and to achieve better results in the Armed Forces. Some opinions also suggested that the revised party regulation report state clearly to whom the party belongs, how the party is organized, and of whom the party is composed.

Comrade Major General Tran Van An, a representative of the most senior party members at the congress, contributed many brilliant opinions to the party documents. He suggested adding the clause: The CPV is a party of the Vietnamese workers' class and was formed and trained by Comrade Ho Chi Minh; into the opening part of the revised party regulation report.

The first round party congress of the 4th Military Region confirmed that the socialist path which was chosen by the party and Uncle Ho is correct. This congress guaranteed democracy, unity, unification, and demonstrated the belief of the Armed Forces of the military region in the leadership of the party.

7th Military Region Congress

BK2704161391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 5 Apr 91

[Article by Hong Son on results of the First Round Party Congress of the 7th Military Region Party Organization]

[Summary] The first round of the 7th Military Region party organization congress has demonstrated a high sense of responsibility through its busy, democratic, and frank debate to contribute views to the draft documents of the seventh party congress. "National defense and security was one of the issues of most concern to the congress delegates."

Delegate Nguyen Van Minh of the Political Department observed: "The world and regional situation is developing in a complicated manner. Contradictions between socialism and capitalism have become acute, especially following the events in Eastern Europe and in the Gulf area. Imperialist forces are no longer concealing their scheme to wipe out socialism. Our country is an important target for reactionary and hostile forces. The party platform asserts our determination to build socialism. As a result, the consolidation of national defense and security is an issue that must be raised properly and clearly explained to our people so they remain vigilant. Although it is necessary to open doors to outsiders, it is impossible for us to let instability occur."

Some other delegates held that the way of raising questions on national defense and security in the platform and the political report was not concerted, which would lead easily to misunderstandings that these two forces are separate, while in fact the two forces, though assuming different functions, are assigned the same mission of defending the country. All delegates suggested that the guidelines and tasks be determined for each force.

Delegate Pham Kinh suggested the establishment of party committees from the central down to local levels in the network of national defense and security forces.

Delegate Le Mai Truong suggested that the platform and the political report should "clearly consider the present situation and estimate the threats from hostile forces," while some others stressed the need to step-by-step make a long-term plan for national defense industry and said: "If a mechanism is not established to carry out this task, it will be difficult to make the strategy of building national defense a reality."

All delegates raised the question: "Should a war of aggression ever happen, how would our Army and people cope with it?" As a core force in national defense against a modernly equipped enemy, "we have no other choice than to continually build the Army into a revolutionary, standardized, and modern army." Since the assistance from friends is no longer the same as it was before, we must accumulate from domestic sources to take care of national defense, mainly through combining the economy with national defense and vice versa. Although this viewpoint was asserted in previous party congresses, quite a number of localities have not actually paid attention to combining the economy with national defense.

The delegate from the political department suggested that "the sentence: Have a relevant policy in the platform, be substituted by the sentence: Have an incentive policy since it is very difficult to affirm the word relevant in reality."

The delegate of the Logistical Department voiced his concern for the very difficult living conditions of cadres and combatants and suggested a reform of the Army's pay policy.

9th Military Region Congress

BK2704154991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 3 Apr 91

[Report by Duy Khai on first round of congress held by the 9th Military Region party organization]

[Summary from poor reception] In the 2 days of the sitting of the first round of the fourth congress of delegates of the 9th Military Region party organization, 28 delegates took part in the debate on various draft documents of the seventh party congress.

"The delegates all held that over the past 6 years or more, under the leadership of our party which was founded and trained by Uncle Ho, we have scored many achievements of great historic significance in both theory and practice.

"The comrade veteran revolutionaries—such as Brother Muoi Chi, Brother Van Sinh, Brother Nam Nho, Brother Bay Phung, Brother Dan Phung, and Brother Ut Bach—described the grandeur of our party, which in the early stage of its existence led the Vietnamese people from the yoke of slavery's miserable state of oppression to a position of being the masters of their own destiny and country, and turned our Army from one equipped with scimitars or kitchen knives and spears into an invincible and heroic army.

"Meanwhile, those comrades belonging to the second and third generations—such as Brother Thanh Loi, Brother Nam Bo, Brother Be, Brother Trung, and Brother Luong—held that the strength of our party leadership relies on the fact that we know how to look squarely at the truth. Particularly at a time when the world situation has undergone seriously complex changes, our party still persists in Marxism-Leninism and the socialist path and resolutely opposes pluralism and a multiparty system.

"In general, the pride of the delegates of many generations attending this congress also stemmed from the fact that our party has frankly, scrupulously, and honestly pointed out its shortcomings in its strategic guidance and leadership over the enforcement of specific policies, and that it has successfully set forth the important and positive contents and guidelines for its struggle under a spirit of renovation."

However, all the doubts and specific petitions had been reflected in a relatively clear manner at this congress.

"In their statements, almost all delegates touched on the issues of security and national defense. Many of them proposed that both contents and measures be supplemented to the draft documents to make it possible for the party and state to pay special attention to the Army and that efforts be made to accurately assess difficulties in the livelihood, activities, and equipment of the Armed Forces at present so appropriate budgets will be instituted for national defense expenditures, and reasonable and logical policies will be adopted toward the Army and Army rear."

At the party congress of the 9th Military Region, I noticed that the confidence of those outstanding communists attending this congress had been inspired, not only in their views but also in their eyes and smiles.

Capital Military Region Congress

BK2904064591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 3 Apr 91

[Text] Thanks to the close guidance of the Vietnam People's Army [VPA] Political Department and the success of party organization congresses at the grassroots level, the first round of the Capital Military Region's fourth party organization congress was satisfactorily held recently. Discussions at the congress were carried out in a serious manner, thereby enhancing the sense of responsibility of party members toward the party and consolidating their efforts to strengthen the cause of building and defending the socialist fatherland.

Delegates to the congress expressed their identity of views on the five party draft documents to be presented at the upcoming Seventh Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Congress. They discussed at length various issues with the aim of enhancing the party members' political consciousness. Many delegates animatedly discussed issues related to the platform on socialist construction in the transition period. This manifested their high sense of responsibility in the national defense and security tasks as well as their vigilance against all enemies of socialism.

The congress proposed that the draft documents define more clearly the national defense task, one of the strategic tasks that must be carried out seriously.

Regarding efforts to improve the daily life of army personnel and officers and to strengthen the army rear services, the congress proposed that the party and state should formulate policies on providing better treatment to these personnel and officers, and that ministries, echelons, and sectors at the central and local levels should combine their effort on strengthening national defense with that of building the Armed Forces and so forth.

Concerning the draft political report, the congress suggested that the review of shortcomings should be made more concrete by pointing out their cause and the failure to promptly overcome them. The congress also suggested that in appraising the national defense and security tasks, it is necessary to mention that cadres and party members have not correctly realized the enemy's schemes and tactics while belittling the national defense task. Delegates also said that the draft political report mentioned in length the tasks of the Military Commission of the CPV Central Committee and the Ministry of National Defense, while failing to clearly define the duty of the entire party and other echelons and sectors in strengthening the army, in building the provincial and city national defense zones, and in implementing the army rear services.

Military Institute Congress

BK2704153991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 9 Apr 91

[From the press review]

[Text] QUAN DOI NHAN DAN today carries an article by Major General Tran Duy Hanh reporting the basic contents of the first round of the fifth congress of the high-level military institute's party organization delegates.

The congress manifested a sincere attitude and the earnest aspiration of one of the greatest centers of military theory in our country. It asserted that the victories won by our party and people from 1930 to the spring of 1975 were great, as stipulated in the draft documents. However, since 1975, especially during the recent renovation process, we have only scored some initial important achievements. On this basis, it was suggested that the heading in the draft platform should read: The Achievements and Lessons of the Vietnamese Revolution.

Other views held that while the socialist system is in a serious crisis, with some communist parties in Eastern Europe having lost their leading role and the sociopolitical regime having changed, our party still persists in Marxism-Leninism and the socialist path, maintains political stability, and has initially succeeded in renovation. It is satisfactory to assess our achievements generally as great victories, and we have the right to be proud of these victories.

Large numbers of delegates contended that the evaluation of victories over the few years in the draft documents is somewhat subjective, and successes and good points are rather highly appraised while not all shortcomings have been pointed out. Then they petitioned the party Central Committee to reconsider the phrases: very important, qualitative changes and turning points because achievements in renovation are not yet steady, inflation is still high, prices still fluctuate and soar high at times, the livelihood of cadres, Armed Forces members and laboring people is still rife with difficulties, and social negativism remains serious.

Quyet Thang Army Corps Congress

BK2904152591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 8 Apr 91

[Report by station correspondent Dao Loc Binh]

[Summary] Dear comrades and friends, the Quyet Thang Army Corps recently held its first round of the fourth party organization congress with the participation of more than 200 delegates representing 80 agencies from the grass-roots and higher levels of the army corps. They include commanding officers attached to the political, staff, rear service, and technical agencies—two of them holders of the People's Armed Forces hero title—and 88 emulative combatants.

"Delegates to the congress focused their discussions on major issues related to the party concepts, principles, objectives, orientations, and tasks raised in various draft documents to be presented at the upcoming Seventh Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Congress."

Delegates expressed different viewpoints in their discussions, but the congress, in general, manifested a high sense of responsibility, unanimity, and cooperation. In the first two days of the congress, more than 100 delegates registered their names for presenting their viewpoints.

"Through their discussions, all delegates asserted that it is necessary for the party to have a platform on socialist construction, and it is the right time to formulate the platform so as to fully implement the resolution of the Sixth CPV Congress."

Delegates to the congress also said the party should have the platform to assert its chosen path and define basic orientations for advancing along this path, especially when socialism is facing serious crisis and the sabotage activities of the reactionary forces.

Many delegates suggested that the platform should be called "The Platform on Building the Country in the Transition Period Toward Socialism," and that it should stress the significance of each revolutionary stage and define measures to promote efforts to bring the all-people unity into full play.

"Some delegates, however, suggested that chapter four, which deals with national defense, security, and foreign affairs, should be divided into two chapters."

Dear comrades and friends, many delegates at the congress expressed concern over the part dealing with efforts to increase per capita income by twofold. "Some of them said this target is too high, while others said it is still too low to help the country eliminate poverty and rise from its underdeveloped condition."

Similar to other military unit party organization congresses, the Quyet Thang Army Corps party organization congress discussed in length the issues related to national defense and security tasks. Delegates contributed diverse yet valuable ideas to the party draft documents.

Generally speaking, the congress wants the draft documents to contain all important points clearly defining our party concepts, principles, and tasks.

"The congress unanimously noted that during the past four years and more, the army has scored great achievements in national defense and security. However, these achievements were not on a par with the current demand. This requires the party, state, people, and Armed Forces to make more efforts, in the days ahead, to strive to overcome difficulties, shortcomings, and weaknesses to help strengthen and consolidate the Armed Forces in all aspects, thereby firmly ensuring success in implementing the renovation cause and carrying out national construction."

The congress also elected 10 official delegates to attend the upcoming all-army party organization congress of delegates.

Western Media's Coverage of Congress Questioned

BK3004144391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 8 Apr 91

[Article by Minh Vy: "Sincerity or Evil Intention"]

[Text] Through a drive to contribute views to the draft documents of the seventh party congress, we have heard many constructive and sincere opinions.

However, we should not think that there have not been any dissenting or conflicting opinions at all. If we do so, we will play into the hands of the propaganda mouthpieces of the hostile forces, and will certainly hear verbal attacks that this is mere invention, formality, and hypocrisy and is, in fact, not a drive for any contribution of views whatsoever.

This, however, has turned out to be contrary to the expectations of bad elements, as our people have demonstrated undeniable and absolute unanimity in their choice of the socialist path as the direction for advancement and in their determination to advance along the socialist path, to build a prosperous and powerful country, to defend their national indepdendence and freedom, and to smash all schemes of the hostile forces from within and without in an attempt to oppose and undermine the cause of socialist construction, thereby satisfying the sacred aspirations of our entire people.

The views contributed in supplement to various specific issues and contents of each provisional aspect in the draft documents are not only sympathic and consistent but are also extremely valuable. Some articles have been abolished and others have been modified. Hundreds of views have also been contributed to the debate on the name of the platform alone. For this reason, the drafting subcommittees are energetically and tirelessly day and night in effort to gather all constructive and sincere opinions for readjusting these draft documents so that when they are made public to solicit suggestions from the entire party and people, everyone can realize that they have also played a part in the drafting of these documents.

Experts on distortion at various Western radio stations who have followed, day and night, reports on the contents of the contribution of views from our mass media, and have prepared one-way commentaries as already pointed out by myself, have now been compelled to change the direction and the contents of their distorted commentaries.

A BBC correspondent astonishingly commented that different viewpoints to the party draft documents made by the people in Vietnam—viewpoints that were stronger and more radical than those of Bui Tin—have been covered and reported in full by the Vietnamese mass media, especially by the paper NHAN DAN.

The same correspondent asked why we approved the full reports on different ideas contributed by our people in Vietnam to the party draft documents while rejecting similar ideas made by other noted journalists, intellectuals, and veteran politicians. The correspondent also asked for an explanation of the difference of these ideas.

Dear Mr. Correspondent, the difference is very fundamental because the viewpoints contributed by our people were sincere and constructive while the ideas made by the abovesaid persons were ill- intentioned allegations.

The Vietnamese people have an ability to accurately measure and predict the sincerity of persons though we have no high-tech electronic equipment and the capability to distort facts as you do. The fact that we can correctly read humanity's conscience is because we have gained good experiences through our experiments in this regard during the past centuries. We can distinguish faithfulness from flattery, goodness from evil, and sincerity from bad intentions. In other words our experiences have become a law. Whenever the country faces difficulties and while our people are striving to share weal and woe to help the country overcome them, a group of opportunists will emerge to draw light-minded people into their activities. However, their shopworn tactics are now well- known to our people.

The Vietnamese people have always maintained their nature of boldly fighting against difficulty and hardship. They are poor but not cowardly, and they can distinguish friends from foes and true feelings from ill will.

Party Secretariat Meets With Media Editors

BK3004160791 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 11 Apr 91

[Text] On 10-11 April, the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Secretariat held a conference with editors in chief of mass media agencies at the central and local levels.

At the conference, the head of the CPV Central Committee Ideology and Culture Department delivered a report to the party Central Committee Secretariat on the mass media efforts to contribute to stabilizing the political situation and accelerating the renovation cause. Afterward, editors in chief expressed their viewpoints on pressing tasks of the mass media agencies at the central and local levels, especially the presentation of news and information on our country's current situation and the ideological work in various newspapers and journals with an aim to achieve good results in the political and social domains.

Many editors in chief frankly presented to the party Central Committee Secretariat the difficulties in performing their tasks as well as the shortage of materials and facilities to improve the presentation of news and information to various people's strata and certain groups of readers. They also exchanged views and reached consensus on their new tasks and orientations for opposing negativism and corruption.

Comrades Nguyen Thanh Binh and Dao Duy Tung urged cadres working at various mass media agencies to develop the sense of responsibility, the spirit of self-reliance, and efforts to use their creativity to carry out the ideological and information work so as to uphold mottos and objectives of their profession. The comrades asked these cadres to strive to satisfactorily fulfill the ideological task prior to and after the Seventh CPV Congress.

Comrade Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, reported on the socioeconomic situation, the government's major objectives and measures on issues related to production and marketing, foreign trade, finance, monetary, wages, and the daily life. He stressed that the Council of Ministers is studying ways and means to build more material-technical bases for mass media agencies and newspapers in order to create favorable conditions for them to advance further to meet requirements of the revolutionary cause. Comrade Nguyen Khanh also said that the Council of Ministers has assigned responsible cadres to regularly provide mass media agencies with important information on the Council of Ministers' policies, objectives, and activities.

Ministries Hold Class on Taxation for Reporters

BK0105052491 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Text] In Hanoi on 18 April, the Ministries of Justice, Finance, and Culture, Information, Sport, and Tourism jointly organized a course on taxation for journalists to provide them—especially reporters responsible for covering economic and legal issues—with a better understanding of taxation so that they may effectively propagate and disseminate the state policy on taxes, thereby helping to improve the shortfall in tax collection.

Attending the course were 66 reporters of mass media agencies from the central and local levels as well as from Hanoi and Ha Son Binh Province.

Delegates to the course were briefed on the general procedure in tax collection, the necessity to change the tax collection system in our country, and the fundamental contents of the three laws on turnover tax, special consumption tax, and income tax, as well as other rules and regulations on tax collection. They also heard a report on results of the implementation of the new tax law since its promulgation on 8 August 1990.

Leaders Attend Hanoi Education Conference

BK0105030691 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 15 Apr 91

[Text] On 13 April the Hanoi People's Committee and the Ministry of Education and Training held a conference to review the work of maintenance, restoration, and building of schools during 1986-90. Attending the conference were Pham Van Dong, adviser to the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee; Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and representatives from the Ministry of Education and sectors concerned at the central level and in Hanoi.

During the past five years, Hanoi has made great efforts, in terms of money and energy, to satisfactorily maintain, restore, and build more schools for youth and children in accordance with the motto "the state and the people work together," thereby contributing to improving teaching and learning.

Since 1986, difficulties in material-technical bases faced by the education sector of the capital have been gradually resolved. Many schools were repaired and upgraded and classrooms expanded. Thus far, more than 60 percent of high schools and 40 percent of general schools in Hanoi have been expanded or rebuilt, thus contributing significantly to stabilizing the education work of the capital.

It can be said that Hanoi has made very great efforts during the past five years to maintain, restore, and build more schools to meet the people's demand. However, difficulties and shortcomings are still prevalent. As a result, the central level, the capital authorities, sectors, and branches concerned should pay more attention to the quality of learning and teaching. To achieve this, it is necessary to build more material-technical bases for and provide more modern teaching aids to schools.

Speaking to the conference, Comrades Pham Van Dong and Nguyen Khanh highly commended Hanoi for its efforts in maintaining, restoring, and building schools during the past period. They expressed the hope that the capital will bring its achievements into full play and will strive for ever greater achievements to optimally improve the teaching and learning tasks.

Insects Threaten 120,000 Hectares of Rice

BK0105051091 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Text] The vegetation protection department reported that more than 120,000 hectares of the early fifth-month spring rice in northern provinces are being ravaged by brown planthoppers and cotton leaf rollers. In Nghe Tinh Province, a vast area under fifth-month spring rice was seriously damaged.

In southern provinces, thanks to the rapid harvest of the spring rice and better preparation to eradicate harmful insects, the damage was minimal.

Brown planthoppers are predicted to spread to northern provinces in the near future, especially to Nghe Tinh, Quang Binh, and Quang Tri Provinces. In southern provinces, brown planthoppers and rice leaf yellow will continue to spread, possibly to summer-fall ricefields.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry urged northern provinces to continue to spray insecticide on ricefields, monitor and stop rice blast and aphelenchoides oryzae from spreading. Southern provinces should strive to eradicate brown planthoppers as soon as possible to prevent them from spreading to the summer-fall rice crop.

Australia

CSFR Federal Assembly Chairman Arrives

AU3004132291 Prague CTK in English 1846 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Melbourne April 28 (CTK)— Chairman of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly (parliament) Alexander Dubcek arrived today on an official visit to Australia.

He met Czechoslovak expatriates and told them that in Czechoslovakia, most Czechs and Slovaks wish to live in one federal state and he as chairman of the commission which is preparing the constitution will work for this aim.

In the evening, Dubcek received the Human Rights Prize which was awarded to him by the Australian Institute for Jewish Affairs.

Dubcek will be in Australia until May 9, with a break of three days from April 30 which he will spend in New Zealand. He will stop over in Singapore on his way home.

New Zealand

50,000 Protest Against New Law on Unions

BK3004115091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1120 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Wellington, April 30 (AFP)—Around 50,000 people demonstrated throughout New Zealand on Tuesday against government plans to pass a controversial employment bill into law later this week.

The demonstrations were the biggest seen in New Zealand since 1981 when a South African rugby team toured here.

Police reports from cities around New Zealand indicated that around 50,000 people marched in what was billed as "a day of action."

In many centres, secondary schools were closed as teachers joined the march. Several newspapers also failed to appear as a result of the action.

There were no reports of disorder during the marches.

The government on May 15 plans to pass into law the employment contracts bill which would end compulsory trade unionism and require individual workers to negotiate their own terms of employment.

Council of Trade Unions Secretary Ron Burgess said the government was using the current economic depression and mass unemployment to break trade unions.

Labour Minister Bill Birch dismissed claims by the Catholic Church that the bill was sinful, saying the legislation had been "grossly misunderstood."

He said the bill only removed a union's monopoly powers to organise.

Further on Bolger-Nakayama Talks, GATT

BK3004055691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0518 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Wellington, April 30 (AFP)—New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger welcomed recent Japanese steps to liberalise agricultural trade when he met visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama here Tuesday, a spokesman for Mr. Nakayama said.

Mr. Nakayama informed his host of Japanese measures to limit subsidised domestic rice production and allow the import of more beef and citrus fruits, Spokesman Makoto Yamanaka said.

He added that Mr. Nakayama had heard "no direct criticism" of Japan's stand on General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) negotiations in the meeting or during another session with New Zealand Foreign Minister Don Mckinnon.

The meetings came the day after French Prime Minister Michel Rocard, also visiting New Zealand, severely criticized the Japanese position on trade in a speech.

Mr. Bolger asked for an explanation of Japan's position on the current Uruguay round of GATT talks aimed at liberalising agricultural trade, Mr. Yamanaka said, adding that Japan attached great importance to the negotiations.

"It is the first priority of Japanese foreign affairs at this moment," Mr. Yamanaka said.

"Export subsidies of the European Community (EC) and other countries are the most difficult question at this juncture."

As the world's largest net importer of agricultural products, Japan is already contributing to the stable development of agricultural trade, Mr. Yamanaka said.

"We are the largest benefactors of the GATT system and we'd like to make efforts, together with the United States, EC and other countries to solve the problems in the agricultural trade."

Mr. Nakayama reminded Mr. Mckinnon of Japan's efforts in the Gulf, which included, Mr. Yamanaka said, an 11 billion dollar contribution to the multinational force, two billion dollars in aid to Egypt, Jordan and Turkey, assistance to Kurdish refugees and the sending of Japanese minesweepers to the Gulf.

Mr. Mckinnon said Japan's efforts had been "valuable and important," Mr. Yamanaka said.

Mr. Nakayama also briefed his host on an upcoming ministerial meeting in Seoul of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group, as well as a proposal for the "three Chinas"—China, Taiwan and Hong Kong—to join, Mr. Yamanaka said.

Mr. Nakayama said Japan favoured "simultaneous participation of the so-called three Chinas in this endeavour," the spokesman told reporters.

As for Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's recent proposal of a multi-national security conference for the region, Mr. Nakayama told his New Zealand counterpart that "Japan is not very interested in this idea," and that it would be difficult to apply European peace processes to the Asian region, Mr. Yamanaka said.

"The Asian-Pacific region is quite different" because of the number of developing countries, said Mr. Yamanaka. "We have to solve the regional conflicts ... first."

Both foreign ministers agreed on the need for a continued U.S. presence in the region, Mr. Yamanaka said.

French Prime Minister Remarks on Nuclear Testing

BK3004162891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1205 GMT 30 Apr 91

[By Michael Field]

[Text] Christchurch, New Zealand, April 30 (AFP)—French Prime Minister Michel Rocard met here Tuesday with Greenpeace officials without agreeing on testing for radioactivity in Mururoa Atoll as he wrapped up a two-day New Zealand tour.

Mr. Rocard, along with his Environment Minister Brice Lalonde and Research Minister Hubert Curien, had a heated debate with officials of the environmental organisation about an independent scientific mission to Mururoa, Greenpeace anti-nuclear campaigner Stephanie Mills said.

Activists of Greenpeace, which opposes nuclear testing at Mururoa in French Polynesia, this year tried to test for radioactivity from their ship Rainbow Warrior II, but French authorities would not let them into the atoll.

In 1985 French agents blew up the original Rainbow Warrior just before it was due to sail from New Zealand to protest at Mururoa.

Ms. Mills said Mr. Rocard listened to the delegation during their hour-long meeting but argued that France needed its nuclear deterrent.

Greenpeace has proposed a joint sampling programme on the atoll, but Mr. Rocard told journalists the organisation would have to accept the French military presence at Mururoa.

"They could not go there entirely on their own without accepting there was French sovereignty and a French presence," he said.

Ms. Mills said the French side proposed a mission under the International Atomic Energy Agency but she said Greenpeace did not consider the agency to be truly independent, adding however that channels of negotiation were still open.

Mr. Lalonde said the meeting was valuable for the face-to-face discussions. "At one time some people thought Greenpeace was paid by the Russians, ... and on the other side people think the Frenchmen are ... ruining the whole planet, so the first thing is to sit at the same table and discuss," he said.

Also Tuesday the French prime minister defended his country's presence in the South Pacific, saying it contributed to the region's prosperity.

"France contributes to stability and development in the Pacific and therefore ... it plays a positive part in the equilibrium of this part of the world," he said.

He said the territories of New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna and French Polynesia were not part of a colonial policy.

"The policy my government is pursuing in (the Pacific) cannot be considered to bear any resemblance whatsoever to a colonial policy. It is a policy of development of territorial autonomy that can contribute to the prosperity of the whole region."

He said the presence of France in the Pacific had long been poorly explained and consequently was misunderstood and disputed. "At times it was also ill-advised," he added.

He said he believed he had helped to turn the tide. As a socialist who spent part of his youth fighting colonialism, his current responsibilities did not lead him to deny his former convictions, he said.

Earlier Tuesday, the French premier visited Akaroa near here, famous as the site of a failed 1840 French experiment in colonisation of New Zealand.

A French whaler originally "bought" the land of local Maori, then returned to France to form the Nanto-Bordelaise company to colonize what was named Port Louis-Philippe.

Although French settlers were able to live in what is known now as Akaroa, they had to accept British sovereignty.

Mr. Rocard and his wife Michele, along with a delegation of 70, swept into tiny Akaroa, where the townsfolk turned out in red, white and blue.

The visitors' Air Force helicopters touched down directly outside the Atomic Cafe, where a blackboard billed the day's special as nuclear-free mutton.

The Rocards walked with a media scrum in front of them and mild but persistent hecklers alongside. "When are you going to stop nuclear testing in the Pacific?" one heckler asked. "As soon as possible," Mr. Rocard replied.

Earlier Tuesday Mr. Rocard said Paris was considering basing its Antarctic programme in New Zealand.

Mr. Rocard said he was impressed with the facilities at the New Zealand Antarctic centre at the international airport here currently used by the United States, Germany and Italy.

French polar projects are currently based on ships, but French scientists are reportedly seeking additional air support. France has an airstrip at Dumont d'Urville in France's Terre Adelie claim in Antarctica.

Mr. Rocard noted that Christchurch was exactly at the antipodes of Perigueux in France. Thus he has emulated a feat by King Juan Carlos of Spain, who in June 1988 went to Palmerston North, the approximate antipodes of Madrid.

The French prime minister is to leave here early Wednesday for South Korea.

Calls New Zealand Stand 'Weird'

BK2904135391 Hong Kong AFP in English 0901 GMT 29 Apr 91

[By Michael Field]

[Text] Wellington, April 29 (AFP)—French Prime Minister Michel Rocard said here Monday he found it "weird" that New Zealand would want France to give up the weapon its leaders and generals could not bring themselves to use.

Speaking at a joint press conference with New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger, Mr. Rocard objected to New Zealand's suggestion "that we should get rid of precisely the thing that has kept war away from us."

Because of willingness to use certain weapons, he argued, "Europe has produced a lot of wars. ... The fact that a moral country like New Zealand should (have) the idea that we should get rid of the one weapon which we are so scared of that we don't use, (and) ... fall back on the weapons that we are used to, and therefore use, is a weird idea."

Mr. Rocard, speaking through an interpreter, said nuclear weapons were different from all other weapons because they were so powerful "it scares the life out of even heads of states and generals."

He said he was "profoundly a man of peace" but added he was serious about opposing disarmament.

Mr. Rocard, the first French premier to visit here, signed a friendship agreement Monday with Mr. Bolger stemming from the bombing in 1985 by French secret service agents of the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior.

The vessel had been due to sail to the French nuclear test site at Mururoa Atoll in French Polynesia.

While it was clear here that the bilateral relationship had been set on a decisive new course, continued French nuclear testing at Mururoa remained a serious issue, with Mr. Rocard announcing that a new season of tests would begin soon.

Mr. Bolger told the same press conference that New Zealand had agreed to differ on the issue, adding, "I have no doubt that we will part at the end of the visit continuing to differ."

"If France wishes to maintain an independent nuclear deterrent, we can't prevent that. But we would much prefer that the tests be carried out in mainland France," he said.

Mr. Rocard said the testing at Mururoa was safe, pointing to the fact that 500 scientists on the atoll swim in the lagoon.

France earlier this year invited Greenpeace to test water samples there, but a dispute over scientific protocols torpedoed the plan. Tests are now being carried out by institutes from the United States and Monaco which will publish the results.

Their "operations are entirely transparent," Mr. Rocard said.

Turning to the Rainbow Warrior sinking, Mr. Rocard repeated that France had committed an act that "was wrong." Both leaders said the shadow of the incident had finally been dispelled.

Mr. Bolger said he had witnessed "the close of a sad and thankfully short chapter in our shared history."

The affair had clouded New Zealand-France relations and harmed France's image worldwide. "It was vital that this matter be put behind us," Mr. Rocard said.

He is scheduled to meet members of Greenpeace in Christchurch on Tuesday.

Earlier in the day Mr. Rocard told a state luncheon: "My country committed an act which was wrong. And this morning I had the profound joy of signing the joint friendship agreement" recommended by a United Nations arbitration panel.

He and Mr. Rocard signed the treaty establishing the friendship fund, to which Paris will contribute two million U.S. dollars and Wellington 58,000 dollars.

Mr. Rocard said ocean scientist Jacques Yves Cousteau will be the French co-chairman of the fund.

CSFR Federal Assembly Chairman Visits Wellington

LD0105093991 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 0800 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] Alexander Dubcek, chairman of the CSFR Federal Assembly, after his arrival in Wellington appealed to the West to support the reforms of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. In his address to the Institute for International Relations, he also stressed the need to support the weak steps of the Soviet society toward democracy to make the process which has begun there irreversible.